

Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya on Tibet
India's Stake in Tibet's Freedom (27 April, 1959)

NOW that the Dalai Lama has reached Mussoorie and has been comfortably lodged in the Birla Niwas, the dramatic and sensational part of the episode, beginning with his escape from the clutches of the Chinese Communist Army, and his request for asylum in India, has ended. The people gave him a warm ovation wherever he went on his way to Mussoorie. He has been deeply touched by his spontaneous and enthusiastic manifestation of the great love and reverence that the people of Bharat have for the Tibetan leader. Some people may interpret the public enthusiasm as owing to the spiritual and religious hue of the Indian soul and to the saffron robes of the visitor. This aspect of the matter can neither be ignored nor minimised. But it is essentially our concern for the peaceful Tibetan people, and our deep resentment at the way the Communists have behaved, that the people have such intense feelings. It may also be that there is the growing realization of the potential danger to our own safety and security that has led people to throng in thousands round the man whose sufferings are intimately connected with our own. It is, therefore, natural that the people eagerly look forward to future steps on the part of the Dalai Lama and the Government of India.

The Prime Minister, even before he met the Dalai Lama, has given an

question our right to impose restri

readily succumbed to the fanciful theory of Chinese suzerainty over Tibet, when the newfangled principles of Panchsheel were fanfared to the world. China agreed to preserve Tibet's autonomy - perhaps only to provide some excuse to Pandit Nehru to calm his conscience at the abject surrender of noble cause to appease the monstrous dragon. But a government wedded to totalitarian methods, could not long, keep up

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a policy of non-alignment. So far as China's intentions are concerned, they are well known. Already she has committed what is known as "cartographic aggression". Now Chou En-lai is reported to have come forward with a suggestion that

attitude will depend on what Panditji does but not on what suits her. A booklet published by the UAR Information Department aptly writes: "Nehru and Nasser led the Bandung movement many years ago. The Communist newspapers were praising and Nasser a man of peace. Now Moscow imagines that he has lost his utility."

"Thus the idea of planting a Communist base in India has emerged and local communists are being provided with money to spread propaganda against and N."

Because of this scheme Peking does not seem to be so particular in avoiding points of conflict with India. In spite of the fact that Pandit and Nehru adopted a very lukewarm attitude on the Tibetan issue, Peking continues to accuse India of complicity in the matter. Dalai Lama's statement, according to Chinese News Agency, is said to have been prepared by some Indian official of the External Affairs Ministry. They have not withdrawn the allegati

have to bear them. If we hesitate we may have to take greater risks in future involving fundamental changes in our policies.