

# Dalai Lama – Tibet's spiritual leader

■ **July 6, 1935:** Born to peasant family in small village in north-eastern Tibet

■ **1937:** Search party of Buddhist officials recognises two-year-old as reincarnation of 13 previous Dalai Lamas

■ **1940:** Enthroned as 14th Dalai Lama. Tibet ruled by regents as he begins monastic education

■ **1950:** China invades Tibet. Dalai Lama, aged 15, assumes full power

■ **1959:** Tibetan protestors demand end to Chinese rule. Troops crush revolt, killing thousands. Dalai Lama flees to Dharamsala, India, and sets up Tibetan government in exile

■ **1959-65:** Dalai Lama persuades UN to adopt three resolutions calling for protection of human rights in Tibet

■ **1987:** Calls for Tibet to be established as “zone of peace”, and for end of large-scale migration by ethnic Han Chinese into Tibet

■ **1989:** Awarded Nobel Peace Prize for his consistent opposition to violence in quest for Tibetan self-rule

■ **1993:** Expresses his goal of Tibetan autonomy rather than complete independence

■ **2002:** Representatives of Dalai Lama make trip to Beijing amid signs of thaw, but discussions make no substantive progress



■ **2007:** Dalai Lama awarded U.S. Congressional Gold Medal

■ **2008:** Worst unrest in two decades breaks out in Tibet. Dalai Lama calls for end to violence and rejects accusations by China that he is responsible for unrest

■ **Feb 2010:** Meets U.S. President **Barack Obama** at White House despite objections from China

■ **July 6:** Dalai Lama marks his 75th birthday