

Chronology of Historical Tibetan Newspapers (1904 - early 1970s)

I compiled the following table as part of my Ph.D. thesis on the Yul phyogs so so'i gsar 'gyur me long (Mirror of News from Various Regions, also known as "Tibet Mirror", 1925-1963) which I wrote at Heidelberg University, at the Cluster "Asia and Europe in a Global Context". The list can be found there as Appendix 1.

	Title	Date of first Issue	Date of first issue seen myself	Frequency	Cessation or last known issue	Published in	Published by	Archive or Source	Comment
1	<i>La dwags kyi ag bar</i> ("Ladakh Newspaper") from March 1908: <i>La dwags pho nya</i> ("Ladakh Messenger")	January 1904	January 1904	monthly	September 1910	Leh (Ladakh)	German Moravian Mission (Herrhuter): August H. Francke	Herrnhut Archives (Herrnhut, Germany), Walravens 2010	
2	<i>Bod kyi phal skad gsar 'gyur</i> ("News in the Colloquial Language of Tibet")	April 5, 1907	July 1907 (no.21)	every ten days		Lhasa	Chinese Ambans Lian Yu and Zhang Yitang	Tibet Museum (Lhasa), Zheng 2000	
3	<i>Possible newspaper planned by the Thirteenth Dalai Lama</i>	1908	no original or copy seen				<i>Thirteenth Dalai Lama</i>	<i>The Straits Times</i> (May 26, 1909:8)	
4	<i>Bod yig phal skad gsar 'gyur</i> ("Newspaper in Colloquial Tibetan"), from April 1915: <i>Bod yig gsar 'gyur</i> ("Tibetan-language Newspaper")	January 1913	January 1913	monthly; bi-weekly		Beijing	KMT	Zhou 2010:165, Bavarian State Library	
5	<i>Yul phyogs so so'i gsar 'gyur me long</i> ("Mirror of News from Various Regions")	October 1, 1925	October 1, 1925	monthly; weekly	November 1963	Kalimpong	Scottish Mission, TMP: Babu Tharchin	various	For further titles see Sawerthal 2011:17-19
6	<i>Bod ljongs a lan gsar 'gyur</i> (?)	1925	no original or copy seen	monthly		Dartsedo/Kangding	Paris Foreign Mission	Rtse dbang et al. 1990:131	Language not specified
7	<i>Kye lang ag bar</i> ("Kyelang Newspaper")	September 1926	May 1927 (no.7)	monthly	1935	Kyelang (Ladakh)	Moravian Missionaries: Walter Asboe and Joseph Gergan	Berlin State Library	
8	<i>Gza' 'khor re'i bod sog gsar gnas</i> ("Mongolian Tibetan Weekly Newsletter"), from April 1934: <i>Bod sog zla re'i gsar gnas</i> ("Mongolian Tibetan Monthly Newsletter")	September 1929	December 7, 1929 (no.8)	weekly; monthly	1947 or 1948	Nanjing; Chongqing	MTAC (KMT): Skal bzang tshe ring et al.	LTWA	Bilingual (Tibetan and Chinese), later quadrilingual (Tibetan, Mongolian, Arabic, Chinese)
9	<i>Mtsho sngon gsar pa</i> ("New Qinghai")	February 10, 1929	no original or copy seen		April 1931		KMT	Zhou 2010:36	Bilingual (Chinese and Tibetan)
10	<i>Shis khang gsar pa'i zla dus tshags par, Xin xi kang yue kan</i> ("New Xikang Monthly")	May 1930	no original or copy seen	monthly			KMT	Zhou 2010:36, Zla ba tshe ring 2009:43	Chinese, including Tibetan articles
11	<i>Journal of Urusvati Himalayan Research Institute of Roerich Museum</i>	1931	1931	annually	1933	Kullu Naggar (India)	Urusvati Himalayan Research Institute of Roerich Museum: George Roerich	Waldenfels 2011:402-408	English
12	<i>Xichui xianhua shi gong shu yuekan</i> ("Monthly Review of the Emissary for the Propagation of Values on the Western Frontier")	1935	no original or copy seen	monthly	1937	Nanjing; Xining, Xiangride; or Inner Mongolia (?)	Panchen Lama's Office: Liu Jiaju	Jagou 2002:98-99, Jagou 2004:14, Jagou 1996:19, Enders 1936:296, Zhou 2010:36-37, Sgrol ma 2009:62	Trilingual (Tibetan, Mongolian, Chinese)
13	<i>Shu sheng zhou bao</i> ("Shusheng Weekly")	January 1936	no original or copy seen	weekly	1940	Dingxiang (Xikang)	KMT-army	Zhou 2010:37	Chinese, including Tibetan articles
14	<i>Bla ma nar 'ung sid khul, Lam a nar ung sedkül</i> ("Journal of the Lamas")	June 1936	June 1936	monthly		Ulaanbaatar	Monks of Gandan monastery	Grivelet 2001	In Mongolian language, but in Tibetan script; one article also in Tibetan language
15	<i>Khams kyi rgyal dmangs nyin re'i gsar 'gyur</i> ("Daily Newspaper of the People of Kham")	1936	no original or copy seen	daily		Dartsedo/Kangding	KMT	Rtse dbang et al. 1990:132	Language not specified
16	<i>La dwags pho nya</i> ("Ladakh Messenger")	January 1937	May 1937 (no.5)	monthly	late 1950s	Leh (Ladakh)	Moravian Mission: Walter Asboe, Pierre Vittoz, Elijah Phuntsog	MCH	
17	<i>Shis khang gsar 'gyur</i> ("Xikang News")	April 24, 1939	not original or copy seen	weekly	December 1949	Dartsedo/Kangding	KMT	Zla ba tshe ring 2009:44, Zhou 2010:37	Bilingual (Tibetan, Chinese)
18	<i>Ko ming nyin re'i tshags par</i> ("Kuomintang Daily Newspaper")	July 1939	not original or copy seen	Tibetan version: weekly	1949, with breaks	Hongkong	KMT: Tao Pai-chuan	Zla ba tshe ring 2009:44, Zhou 2010:37	Bilingual (Tibetan, Chinese): Chinese version daily, Tibetan version weekly
19	<i>Shis khang go ming nyin re'i tshags par</i> ("Daily Newspaper of the Kuomintang in Xikang")	October 10, 1941	not original or copy seen	Tibetan version: weekly	1945	Dartsedo/Kangding	KMT	Zla ba tshe ring 2009:44, D'Ester/Heide 1942:239	Bilingual (Tibetan, Chinese), Chinese version daily, Tibetan version weekly
20	<i>Tshung kren gsar 'gyur</i> (?)	1944	no original or copy seen	monthly	1948	Kangding/Dartsedo	Paris Foreign Mission	Rtse dbang et al. 1990:132	Language not specified

21	<i>Rab dga' spom mda' tsang's newspaper project</i>	Around 1945-1946	probably not realized			Kalimpong	<i>Rab dga' spom mda' tsang</i>	Goldstein [2007]1989:456, OIOC "Mss Eur D 998/39" in McKay 2009:199	
22	<i>Mtsho sngon bod yig gsar 'gyur</i> ("The Amdo Tibetan-language News")	January 16, 1951	September 16, 1951 (no.26)	every ten days; daily	still running	Xining	Chinese Communist Government	VIESAK	
23	<i>Chamdo newspaper</i>	1951 (?)	no original or copy seen			Chamdo	Chinese Communist government	Melong 19-3-12 (June 1951)	
24	<i>Mi ser brnyan dpar</i> , later <i>Mi dmangs brnyan par</i> ("People Pictorial")	1951	February 1951 (no.2)	monthly		Beijing	Chinese Communist government	VIESAK	Published in six languages (Chinese, Russian, English, Mongolian, Tibetan and Uighur)
25	<i>Gsar 'gyur mdor bsdus</i> ("Condensed News")	December 1, 1953	December 1, 1953	every five days	1956	Lhasa	Chinese Communist Government	LTWA, CU	Precursor to <i>Bod ljongs nyin re'i gsar 'gyur</i> (see entry 32 of this table)
26	<i>Rgyal rtse gsar 'gyur</i> ("Gyantse News")	1953 (?)	February 10, 1954 (no. 38)		still running	Gyantse	Chinese Communist government	LTWA	
27	<i>Ming kyang tshags par</i> ("Min River Newspaper"), or <i>Ming kyang gsar 'gyur</i> , by 1981: <i>Rnga pa tshags par</i> ("Ngaba Newspaper")	1953	no original or copy seen	daily	still running	Ngaba	Chinese Communist government	Kolmaš 1978:104, Hartley 2005:247, Zla ba tshe ring 2009:44	
28	<i>Dkar mdzes lho rgyud tshags par</i> ("South Kardze Newspaper"), from 1954: <i>Dkar mdzes tshags par</i> ("Kardze Newspaper"), from ca. 1957: <i>Dkar mdzes nyin re'i tshags par</i> ("Daily Kardze Newspaper")	1953	October 30, 1959 (no.697)		still running	Dartsedo/Kangding	Chinese Communist government	Zla ba tshe ring 2009:44, private: Robbie Barnett	
29	<i>Kan lho'i gsar 'gyur</i> ("Gannan News")	1954	no original or copy seen	every five days; weekly	still running	Tashikyil/Xiahe	Chinese Communist government	Schubert 1957-58:11, Zhou 2010:174	Bilingual (Tibetan, Chinese) until 1954; on January 1, 1955, first Tibetan-only issue
30	<i>Mi rigs brnyan par</i> ("Nationalities Pictorial")	1955	no original or copy seen	monthly		Beijing	Chinese Communist government	Hartley 2005:233	
31	<i>A newspaper from Shigatse</i>	1955	no original or copy seen			Shigatse	Chinese Communist government	Winnington 1957:192	
32	<i>Bod ljongs nyin re'i gsar 'gyur</i> , from 1965 <i>Bod ljongs nyin re'i tshags par</i> ("Tibet Daily")	April 22, 1956	March 1, 1958 (no. 565)	daily	still running	Lhasa	Chinese Communist government	VIESAK, etc.	Emerged out of <i>Gsar 'gyur mdor bsdus</i> (see entry 25 of this table)
33	<i>Sikkim Herald</i> , <i>Bras ljongs bya ma rta</i>	1956 or 1957	1970s		2001	Gangtok (Sikkim)	Information and Public Relations Department of the Government of Sikkim	private: Tshul khriims rgya mtsho (NIT)	At first only in English; Tibetan version from ca. 1965
34	<i>Mtsho sngon brnyan par</i> ("Qinghai Pictorial")	July 1958	July 1958			Xining	Chinese Communist government	CU	
35	<i>Bod kyi shes rig</i> , <i>Tibetology</i>	November 1959	November 1959			Gangtok (Sikkim)	Namgyal Institute of Tibetology	VIESAK, NIT, etc.	At first bilingual (Tibetan, English); from May 1964 called <i>Bulletin of Tibetology</i> , published only in English
36	<i>Rang dbang gsar shog</i> , <i>Freedom</i>	March 10, 1960	February 16, 1961 (no.38)	weekly	1965	Darjeeling	Tibet Freedom Press: Rgyal lo don 'grub, Lha dbang dpal 'byor, Bhag 'gro Lama et al.	VIESAK, LTWA, etc.	
37	<i>Yar rgyas gong 'phel</i> ("Progress")	1961	July 1971 (vol.10 no.3)	monthly		Gangtok (Sikkim)	Information Service of India	AM	
38	<i>Krung dbyang gsar 'gyur</i> , <i>Central Weekly News</i>	January 1963	July 21, 1963 (no.22)	weekly		Kolkata	KMT: Bstan pa lhun 'grub	University of Washington, VIESAK	
39	<i>Rang dbang srung skyobs gsar shog</i> , <i>Defend Tibet's Freedom</i>	July 31, 1963	July 31, 1963	every ten days	1965	Darjeeling	Rang dbang srung skyobs par khang: Lha mo tshe ring, A mdo 'jigs med, 'Ba' chung mthu stobs dgon po	VIESAK	
40	<i>Bod mi'i rang dbang</i> , <i>Tibetan Freedom</i>	March 9, 1965	March 9, 1965	daily; weekly	still running	Darjeeling; Dharamsala (India)	Bhag 'gro Lama, 'Ba' pa phyag mdzod bkra shis	VIESAK, LTWA,	Emerged out of <i>Rang dbang gsar shog</i> (see entry 36) and <i>Rang</i>

								CU, etc.	<i>dbang srung skyobs gsar shog</i> (see entry 39)
41	<i>Shes bya</i> ("Object of Knowledge")	October 1968	January 1969 (vol.1 no.12)	monthly	still running	Dharamsala	The Editorial Board: Tenzin Geyche, Sonam Tobgyal, Tenzin Tethong	LTWA, SOAS, etc.	
42	<i>'Go rtogs</i> ("Understanding")	Early 1970s (?)	illegible			Mustang (Nepal)	CIA-sponsored guerilla fighters in Mustang: Lha mo tshe ring et al.	Norbu 1999, Tshong kha Lha mo Tshe ring 2008:76-78	

Abbreviations:

KMT	Kuomintang
MTAC.....	Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs Commission
AM	Amnye Machen Institute, Dharamsala
CU.....	Columbia University, New York
MCH	Moravian Church House, London
STABL.....	Berlin State Library, Berlin
TCMM	Tharpa Chöling Monastery Museum, Kalimpong
VIESAK	South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies Library of the University of Vienna

Bibliography:

- D'Ester, Karl, and Walther Heide, eds. *Zeitungswissenschaft. Monatsschrift für Internationale Zeitungsforschung*. Berlin: Drucker und Humbolt, 1942.
- Enders, Gordon. *Nowhere Else in the World*. London: Hurst and Blankett, 1936.
- Goldstein, Melvyn. *A History of Modern Tibet. Vol. 2: The Calm before the Storm: 1951 - 1955*. Reprint. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 2007[1989].
- Grivelet, Stephane. *The Journal of the Lamas: A Mongolian Publication in Tibetan Script*. Publications of the Mongolia Society; Special Papers 14. Bloomington: Indiana University Publication Services, 2001.
- Hartley, Lauran. "Tibetan Publishing in the Early Post-Mao Period." *Cahiers d'Extrême-Asie* 15 (2005): 231–252.
- Jagou, Fabienne. "A Pilgrim's Progress: On the Peregrinations of the 6th Panchen Lama." *Lungta* 10 (Winter 1996): 12–23.
- Jagou, Fabienne. "The Sixth Panchen Lama's Chinese Titles." In *Khams pa Histories. Visions of People, Place and Authority* [Proceedings of the Ninth Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies], edited by Lawrence Epstein, 85–102. Leiden: Brill, 2002.
- Jagou, Fabienne. *Le 9e Panchen Lama (1883-1937): Enjeu des relations sino-tibétaines*. Paris: École Française d'Extrême-Orient, 2004.
- Kolmaš, Josef. *Tibetan Books and Newspapers (Chinese Collection), with Bibliographical Notes*. Prague: Academia, 1978.
- Norbu, Jamyang. "Silent Struggle. Tsongkha Lhamo Tsering (1924–1999)." *Rangzen Alliance*. February 1, 1999. <http://www.rangzen.net/1999/02/01/silent-struggle/>.
- Rtse dbang, and Gnyan phyug. *Mi rigs kyi gsar 'gyur rig pa*. Chengdu: Si khron mi rigs dpe skrun khang, 1990.
- Schubert, Johannes. "Vom Gelben Meer zum Blauen See." *Wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift der Karl-Marx-Universität Leipzig* 7, no. 1-2 (1957): 1–12.
- Sgrol ma. "Bcing 'grol sngon gyi bod rig pa'i dus deb mdor gleng." *Krung go'i bod rig pa* [China Tibetology] 1 (2009): 60–65.
- Tshong kha Lha mo Tshe ring. *Btsan rgol rgyal skyob*. Vol.6. Dharamsala: Amnye Machen Institute, 2008.
- Waldenfels, Ernst von. *Nikolai Roerich: Kunst, Macht Und Okkultismus: Biografie*. Berlin: Osburg Verlag, 2011.
- Walravens, Hartmut. *The First Tibetan Serials. Neuerwerbungen 22*. Berlin: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, 2010.
- Zheng, Wenlei, ed. *Precious Deposits: Qing Dynasty and the Republic of China*. Vol. 5. Beijing: Morning Glory Publications, 2000.
- Zhou, Decang. *Zhong guo zang wen bao kan fa zhan shi*. Beijing: Zhongguo she hui ke xue chu ban she, 2010.
- Zla ba tshe ring. "Bod yig tshags par gyi 'phel rim dang rnam grangs de bzhin gnyer skyong bya tshul skor mdo tsam gleng ba/." *Bod ljongs lob grwa chen mo'i rug deb* [Journal of Tibet University] 2 (2009): 41–47.