

# 13th Dalai Lama Young

## The 13th Dalai Lama's Youth: Shaping a Spiritual Leader

The 13th Dalai Lama, Thubten Gyatso, wasn't just a religious figure; he was a pivotal historical figure whose early life profoundly shaped his later reign. Understanding this formative period provides valuable insights into the development of a spiritual leader and offers practical lessons for personal growth today.

13th Dalai Lama, Thubten Gyatso, Dalai Lama, Tibetan Buddhism, childhood, spirituality, leadership, education, early life, personal development, spiritual development.

The 13th Dalai Lama, born in 1876, ascended to power amidst tumultuous times in Tibet. His early life, fraught with both privilege and hardship, laid the foundation for the spiritual leader he would become. Examining this period sheds light on the interplay of external factors and internal choices in shaping a visionary figure.

### A Life Shaped by Circumstances

Thubten Gyatso's youth was deeply intertwined with the political and social landscape of 19th-century Tibet. Born into a lineage steeped in Buddhist tradition, his early years exposed him to a rigorous education focused on monastic disciplines and intricate philosophical texts. However, this environment wasn't devoid of challenges. The region grappled with political instability, external pressures from neighboring powers, and a backdrop of social reform.

### The Power of Education and Training

The Dalai Lama's education wasn't confined to the traditional religious texts. He was immersed in a curriculum encompassing philosophy, logic, and medical studies, showcasing a holistic approach to learning. This multifaceted education provided a robust intellectual foundation for his later leadership. Contemporary readers can draw parallels between this emphasis on comprehensive learning and the importance of a well-rounded education in the modern world.

### Navigating Early Challenges

The political unrest and external pressures surrounding the 13th Dalai Lama's youth presented him with significant challenges. His early exposure to political maneuvering and external threats instilled in him a deep understanding of the complexities of power dynamics.

This early experience could arguably be seen as essential in cultivating his leadership acumen, forcing him to develop resilience and strategic thinking. This lesson holds relevance for individuals facing adversity in their own lives.

### Developing a Spiritual Foundation

From a young age, Thubten Gyatso showed a keen interest in Buddhist philosophy and meditative practices. This deep-seated devotion laid the groundwork for his later spiritual journey. His early training fostered a connection with the teachings, cultivating a profound understanding of compassion, empathy, and the pursuit of inner peace.

### Practical Insights for Today

Thubten Gyatso's early life provides several practical lessons applicable to individuals seeking personal and spiritual growth:

**Embrace Holistic Education:** Broaden your learning beyond academic boundaries. Cultivate intellectual curiosity and explore various interests.

**Develop Resilience:** Challenges are inevitable. Learn to navigate adversity with resilience and adaptability.

**Cultivate Inner Peace:** Engage in practices that cultivate mindfulness and self-awareness.

**Understand the Power of Relationships:** Strengthen your relationships and cultivate empathy.

**Seek Meaning and Purpose:** Develop a profound connection with your beliefs and values, creating a strong sense of purpose.

### Conclusion

The 13th Dalai Lama's youth, though historically contextualized, presents a compelling narrative of a pivotal figure shaped by the environment. His journey underscores the significant role of early experiences in shaping future endeavors. Examining his early life encourages us to reflect on our own formative years and consider how we can cultivate resilience, empathy, and a deep-seated sense of purpose.

### Frequently Asked Questions

1. What was the political climate of Tibet during the 13th Dalai Lama's youth? The region faced considerable instability and external pressures from neighboring powers. This influenced his early life and contributed to the political challenges he later faced.
2. What role did education play in his development? Comprehensive education encompassing religious texts, philosophy, and medical studies shaped his intellect and provided a holistic foundation for his leadership.

3. How can we apply the lessons from his early life to our own journeys? Develop a holistic understanding of education, foster resilience, cultivate inner peace, strengthen relationships, and seek a profound sense of purpose.
4. Did his upbringing contribute to his later leadership style? The challenges and experiences of his early life likely contributed to his ability to navigate complex situations, cultivate empathy, and understand the delicate balance of power.
5. How does his story inform our understanding of spirituality? It underscores the significance of early devotion and rigorous study in shaping a spiritual leader. His journey highlights the importance of combining personal discipline with an understanding of the world around him.

## **The Young 13th Dalai Lama: A Catalyst for Change in a Tumultuous Era**

The 13th Dalai Lama, known as Thubten Gyatso, ascended to the spiritual and temporal leadership of Tibet in 1904. While often associated with the mature, established figurehead of a unified Tibet, his youth played a crucial role in shaping the tumultuous political landscape of early 20th-century Tibet and foreshadowing the challenges to come. This article explores the formative years of the 13th Dalai Lama, examining his early life, education, and political engagement, to illuminate the pivotal role he played in a period of significant societal and geopolitical upheaval.

### **Early Life and Education: Laying the Foundation for Future Leadership**

The 13th Dalai Lama, born in 1876, was identified as the reincarnation of the previous Dalai Lama at a young age. This early recognition, often involving complex rituals and divination, bestowed upon him an almost immediate sense of destiny. Unlike many children of the era, who might have experienced a more typical upbringing, the Dalai Lama's early years were defined by rigorous religious instruction, meditation, and extensive study of Tibetan Buddhist texts. He was immersed in the intricate philosophy of Tibetan Buddhism, gaining a comprehensive understanding of its ethical and practical implications at an astonishingly young age.

**Early Recognition and Initiation:** The intricate process of identifying a reincarnation is documented in Tibetan Buddhist texts and historical accounts. This underscores the

significance of the Dalai Lama's position from a young age.

*Specialized Education in Monasteries:* The Dalai Lama's education was not simply academic; it was deeply spiritual and experiential. He resided in various monasteries and studied under renowned scholars, ensuring a rich and multifaceted understanding of Buddhist thought and practice.

Political Awakening and the Rise of Nationalism:

The early 20th century witnessed Tibet facing increased pressure from China and encroaching colonial powers. This geopolitical landscape, alongside his education, influenced the Dalai Lama's early political awareness. He saw the growing threat to Tibet's sovereignty firsthand and began to comprehend the need for a cohesive and resilient political structure to safeguard his nation's identity.

**Exposure to External Pressures:** The Dalai Lama's youth coincided with the Chinese Qing Dynasty's waning influence, and the rise of British influence. The increasing geopolitical tension exerted pressure on Tibet and influenced the early political development of the Dalai Lama. (Detailed historical accounts in [insert reference for relevant historical documents]).

*Emergence of Tibetan Nationalism:* The pressure from external powers fostered a growing sense of Tibetan nationalism in the population, a sentiment likely felt keenly by the young Dalai Lama, influencing his future stance.

Challenges and Opportunities in a Changing Landscape:

The Dalai Lama's early years were certainly not without trials. He faced the challenges inherent in balancing the spiritual and temporal responsibilities of leadership while dealing with the growing influence of external forces. Despite these obstacles, his youth was also a period of significant growth, where he could adapt and learn new strategies to address emerging issues and opportunities.

**The Russo-Japanese War (1904-05):** [Include data on impact on Tibet and the Dalai Lama's role, if applicable. Cite relevant sources].

Visual Aid (Potential): A timeline showcasing key events from the 13th Dalai Lama's early life, highlighting critical political developments and his educational experiences. This could be a visual representation of the years 1876-1904, illustrating overlapping events and their influence on him.

**The Dalai Lama's Early Policy Formation**

The young Dalai Lama was likely involved in consultations and debates regarding the nation's

approach to the rising threats. This early engagement could have laid the groundwork for the more assertive policies he would adopt later in his reign.

### *Early Interactions with Representatives of Foreign Powers*

It's crucial to understand that interactions between Tibetan leaders and foreign representatives during the Dalai Lama's youth, though perhaps not overtly defined by diplomacy, likely provided early exposure to the intricacies of international relations. These encounters could have fostered the early development of political acumen.

### Conclusion:

The 13th Dalai Lama's youth, from his early recognition as the reincarnation to his involvement in early political debates, was a period of crucial formation. His education, exposure to external pressures, and budding sense of national identity shaped his future actions and policies. His journey demonstrates that even in the formative years, significant influence can be exerted on the trajectory of history, particularly when navigating the delicate balance between spiritual guidance and temporal responsibilities in a changing political landscape.

### Advanced FAQs:

1. How did the complex process of identifying the 13th Dalai Lama's reincarnation affect the early development of his political identity?
2. What specific political strategies were employed by the Dalai Lama during his youth to address the threats to Tibetan sovereignty?
3. To what extent did the actions and attitudes of surrounding nations impact the Dalai Lama's early personal development and political understanding?
4. What was the extent of the Dalai Lama's direct participation in political decision-making during his early years, and how is that reflected in existing historical records?
5. How do the interactions with foreign representatives and treaties influence the future trajectory of Tibetan politics in the 20th century?

### References:

[Insert a comprehensive list of academic sources, including books, journal articles, and relevant primary documents. Proper citation format is crucial.]

Note: This is a framework. You need to replace the bracketed information with actual research, data, and visual aids. The specific content and citations depend on your available resources. Remember to properly cite all sources.

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LibraryThing, and Book Catalogue are popular apps for tracking your reading progress and managing book collections. Spreadsheets: You can create your own spreadsheet to track books read, ratings, and other details.

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2009-03-03 Follows the childhood of the 14th Dalai Lama from his simple life in a mountain village to the thousand-room Potala Palace and his perilous escape into exile. Follows the childhood of the 14th Dalai Lama from his simple life in a mountain village to the thousand room Potala Palace and his perilous escape into exile

2004

1990 The fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet offers his views on world peace and environmental responsibility in a collection of essays accompanied by photographs of his beloved Tibet The fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet offers his views on world peace and environmental responsibility in a collection of essays accompanied by photographs of his beloved Tibet I accept the Nobel Peace Prize in a spirit of optimism

2015-10-20 Using the traditional Buddhist allegorical image of the Wheel of Life and the teaching of the twelve links of dependent origination, the Dalai Lama deftly illustrates how our existence, though fleeting and often full of woes, brims with the potential for peace and happiness. We can realize that potential by cultivating a wise appreciation of the interdependency of actions and experience, and by living a kind and compassionate life. A life thus lived, the Dalai Lama teaches, becomes thoroughly meaningful for both oneself and for others. This book was originally published under the title *The Meaning of Life*. A life thus lived the Dalai Lama teaches becomes thoroughly meaningful for both oneself and for others This book was originally published under the title *The Meaning of Life*

2017-07-11 The Dalai Lama tells the life story of his remarkable teacher, Ling Rinpoché, who remained a powerful anchor for him from childhood and into his emergence as a global spiritual leader. The Sixth Ling Rinpoché (1903-83) was a

towering figure in Tibetan Buddhism. Combining great learning with great humility, he was ordained by the Thirteenth Dalai Lama and went on to serve as the head of the Geluk tradition and as the senior tutor to the present Dalai Lama. In temperament and wisdom, he had a profound influence on the Dalai Lama's spiritual development, and he became a steadying presence for His Holiness during the chaotic changes that defined the Tibetan experience of the twentieth century, with the invasion of their country by Communist forces and the subsequent rebuilding of their culture in India. Ling Rinpoché's extensive travels among exiled communities abroad and across India buoyed the spirits of the Tibetan diaspora, and the training and activities of this consummate Buddhist master, here told by the Dalai Lama in the traditional Tibetan style, will inspire and amaze. Over one hundred archival photos bring the text to life. The Dalai Lama tells the life story of his remarkable teacher Ling Rinpoché who remained a powerful anchor for him from childhood and into his emergence as a global spiritual leader

2012-09-25 For the first time for general readers, the Dalai Lama presents a comprehensive overview of the most important teaching of Buddhism. Perhaps the main difference between Buddhism and other religions is its understanding of our core identity. The existence of the soul or self, which is central in different ways to Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, is

actually denied in Buddhism. Even further, belief in a “self” is seen as the main source of our difficulties in life. Yet a true understanding of this teaching does not lead one to a despairing, cynical worldview with a sense that life has no meaning—Far from it, a genuine understanding leads to authentic happiness for an individual and the greatest source of compassion for others. In 2003 and in 2007, the Dalai Lama was invited to New York to give a series of talks on the essential Buddhist view of selflessness. This new book, the result of those talks, is now offered to help broaden awareness of this essential doctrine and its usefulness in living a more meaningful and happy life. While the Dalai Lama offers a full presentation of his teachings on these key philosophical points for contemplation, he also shows readers how to bring these teachings actively into their own lives with recommendations for a personal practice. It is only by actually living these teachings that we allow them to bring about a genuine transformation in our perception of ourselves and our lives. A *Profound Mind* offers important wisdom for those committed to bringing about change in the world through developing their own spiritual capabilities, whether they are Buddhists or not. This new book the result of those talks is now offered to help broaden awareness of this essential doctrine and its usefulness in living a more meaningful and happy life.

2006-08-29 An invaluable collection that brings together the best of the Dalai Lama's

writings on all aspects of life. An inspiration to millions of people worldwide, the Dalai Lama has authored more than fifty books. Now, for the first time, *The Essential Dalai Lama* brings together the best of the Dalai Lama's writings on all aspects of life, from work to meditation. Divided into four sections—The Vision, Buddhist Perspectives, Practice, A World in Harmony—*The Essential Dalai Lama* contains eloquent applications of the principles of ancient Buddhist thought to contemporary issues, all expressed in the Dalai Lama's uniquely compelling voice. This is the perfect compilation for anyone who wishes to have one source for the Dalai Lama's teachings or who seeks an introduction to the philosophy and practice of Buddhism. This is the perfect compilation for anyone who wishes to have one source for the Dalai Lama's teachings or who seeks an introduction to the philosophy and practice of Buddhism.

1996 A biography of the current Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, discussing the history of Tibet and the role of the Buddhist leader in this country's spiritual and political life. A biography of the current Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatso discussing the history of Tibet and the role of the Buddhist leader in this country's spiritual and political life.

2008-06-03 His Holiness the Dalai Lama is an extraordinary example of a life dedicated to peace, communication, and unity. What he represents, and what he has accomplished, heals and transcends the current tensions between Tibet and China.

Why the Dalai Lama Matters explores just why he has earned the world's love and respect, and how restoring Tibet's autonomy within China is not only possible, but highly reasonable, and absolutely necessary for all of us together to have a peaceful future as a global community. In the few decades since the illegal Chinese invasion of Tibet, Tibetans have seen their ecosystem destroyed, their religion, language, and culture repressed, and systematic oppression and violence against anyone who dares acknowledge Tibetan sovereignty. Yet, above it all, the Dalai Lama has been a consistent voice for peace, sharing a Middle-Way approach that has gathered accolades from the Nobel Peace Prize to the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal. Modeling this peaceful resistance shows the world that nobody is free unless everybody is free -- and that a solution exists that can benefit all parties, not just one. And more than just his nation have taken notice. His inter-religious dialogues, honest, humble demeanor, and sense of compassionate justice sets him apart in a world at war with itself. When China changes policy and lets Tibetans be who they are, Tibet can, in turn, join with China in peaceful coexistence. Why the Dalai Lama Matters is not merely a book about Tibet or the Dalai Lama. It is a revealing, provocative solution for a world in conflict, dealing with the very fundamentals of human rights and freedoms. By showing the work that the Dalai Lama has done on behalf of his people, Thurman illuminates a worldwide call to action, showing that power

gained by might means nothing in the face of a determined act of truth. By showing the work that the Dalai Lama has done on behalf of his people Thurman illuminates a worldwide call to action showing that power gained by might means nothing in the face of a determined act of truth

2023-11-15 The Tibetan Question, the nature of Tibet's political status vis-à-vis China, has been the subject of often bitterly competing views while the facts of the issue have not been fully accessible to interested observers. While one faction has argued that Tibet was, in the main, historically independent until it was conquered by the Chinese Communists in 1951 and incorporated into the new Chinese state, the other faction views Tibet as a traditional part of China that split away at the instigation of the British after the fall of the Manchu Dynasty and was later dutifully reunited with New China in 1951. In contrast, this comprehensive study of modern Tibetan history presents a detailed, non-partisan account of the demise of the Lamaist state. Drawing on a wealth of British, American, and Indian diplomatic records; first-hand-historical accounts written by Tibetan participants; and extensive interviews with former Tibetan officials, monastic leaders, soldiers, and traders, Goldstein meticulously examines what happened and why. He balances the traditional focus on international relations with an innovative emphasis on the intricate web of internal affairs and events that produced the fall of

Tibet. Scholars and students of Asian history will find this work an invaluable resource and interested readers will appreciate the clear explanation of highly polemicized, and often confusing, historical events. The Tibetan Question, the nature of Tibet's political status vis-à-vis China, has been the subject of often bitterly competing views while the facts of the issue have not been fully accessible to interested observers. While one faction has argued that T The Demise of the Lamaist State Melvyn C Goldstein THE 13TH DALAI LAMA AND RETING control pushed westward The young favorite Tsarong reorganized this system and raised an additional 1 000 troops by requiring that every 2

2020-03-24 For the first time ever, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate His Holiness the Dalai Lama addresses children directly, sharing lessons of peace and compassion, told through stories of his own childhood. One of today's most inspiring world leaders was once an ordinary child named Lhamo Thondup. In a small village in Tibet, his mother was his first great teacher of compassion. In everyday moments from his childhood, young readers begin to see that important lessons are all around us, and that they, too, can grow to truly understand them. With simple, powerful text, the Dalai Lama shares the universalist teachings of treating one another with compassion, which Bao Luu illustrates beautifully in vibrant color. In an increasingly confusing world, The Seed of Compassion offers guidance and encouragement on how we all might bring

more kindness to it. In an increasingly confusing world The Seed of Compassion offers guidance and encouragement on how we all might bring more kindness to it

2019-07-30 The first-ever extensive biography of Tibet's most famous nonsectarian Buddhist lama Known as the "king of renunciates," Jamgon Kongtrul Lodro Taye (1813-1899) forever changed the face of Buddhism through collecting, arranging, and disseminating the various lineage traditions of Tibet across sectarian lines. His extensive treasury collections of profound Buddhist teachings continue to be taught and transmitted throughout the Himalayas by all major traditions and represent the breadth and profundity of Tibetan Buddhist philosophy and practice. Jamgon Kongtrul was a polymath, dedicated retreatant, ritual expert, writer, and teacher from the eastern Tibetan kingdom of Derge. During the nineteenth century, while central Tibet experienced extreme sectarian divides, Jamgon Kongtrul, along with Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo and Chokgyur Lingpa, set about collecting, teaching, and transmitting the major practice traditions found in Tibet. Their activity—much of which did not adhere to the traditional divides of the Tibetan "schools" and included both tantric lineages coming from India as well as Tibetan treasure (terma) lineages—is one of the finest examples of Tibetan ecumenism, or Rimay, and Jamgon Kongtrul is perhaps the most famous among Tibet's Rimay masters. This is the most accessible work available on

Jamgon Kongtrul's life, writings, and influence, written as a truly engaging historical biography. Alexander Gardner provides an intimate glimpse into the life of one of the most important Tibetan Buddhist teachers to have ever lived. This is the most accessible work available on Jamgon Kongtrul's life writings and influence written as a truly engaging historical biography

2018-10-02 The Dalai Lama's teacher's autobiography offers glimpses into the young Dalai Lama's spiritual upbringing and his escape from Tibet. Trijang Rinpoche was born to an aristocratic Tibetan family in 1901 and quickly recognized as the reincarnation of a very important high lama. Eventually appointed a mentor to the young Fourteenth Dalai Lama, Trijang became one of his most trusted confidants. His status gave him a front-row seat to many of the momentous historical events that befell Tibet. Rinpoche observes the workings of Tibetan high society and politics with an unvarnished frankness, including inside details of encounters between the Dalai Lama and Mao Tse Tung, Jawarlal Nehru, Pope John Paul II, and Indira Gandhi. Most widely known as a yogi with deep and profound, lifelong religious training, Trijang was also a statesman, a preserver of culture, a poet, writer, and artist. His autobiography is a beautifully written tour-de-force account of Tibetan life in the twentieth century, including intimate details about the upbringing of the Dalai Lama. Trijang Rinpoche was born to an aristocratic Tibetan

family in 1901 and quickly recognized as the reincarnation of a very important high lama

1991-06-21 In this astonishingly frank autobiography, the Dalai Lama reveals the remarkable inner strength that allowed him to master both the mysteries of Tibetan Buddhism and the brutal realities of Chinese Communism. In this astonishingly frank autobiography the Dalai Lama reveals the remarkable inner strength that allowed him to master both the mysteries of Tibetan Buddhism and the brutal realities of Chinese Communism

1962 Account of his 9 year struggle, as Tibet's temporal and spiritual leader, to preserve some measure of independence for his country after the Chinese Communists invaded in 1950. Account of his 9 year struggle as Tibets temporal and spiritual leader to preserve some measure of independence for his country after the Chinese Communists invaded in 1950

2005-06-10 With characteristic humility, His Holiness the Dalai Lama begins this landmark survey of the entire Buddhist path by saying, I think an overview of Tibetan Buddhism for the purpose of providing a comprehensive framework of the path may prove helpful in deepening your understanding and practice. In this book, the Dalai Lama delivers a presentation that is both concise and profound, accessible and engaging. As readers explore Tibetan Buddhism more fully than ever before, they will find in His Holiness a great friend and

authority. In this book the Dalai Lama delivers a presentation that is both concise and profound accessible and engaging As readers explore Tibetan Buddhism more fully than ever before they will find in His Holiness a great friend and authority

2020 The first authoritative biography of the Dalai Lama--a story by turns inspiring and shocking--from an acclaimed Tibetan scholar with exceptional access to his subject. The Dalai Lama's message of peace and compassion resonates with people of all faiths and none. Yet, for all his worldwide fame, he remains personally elusive. At last Alexander Norman--acclaimed Oxford-trained scholar of the history of Tibet--delivers the definitive, unique, unforgettable biography. The Dalai Lama recounts an astonishing odyssey from isolated Tibetan village to worldwide standing as spiritual and political leader of one of the world's most profound and complex cultural traditions. Norman reveals that, while the Dalai Lama has never been comfortable with his political position, he has been a canny player--at one time CIA-backed--who has maneuvered amidst pervasive violence, including placing himself at the center of a dangerous Buddhist schism. Yet even more surprising than the political, Norman convinces, is the Dalai Lama's astonishing spiritual practice, rooted in magic, vision, and prophecy--details of which are illuminated in this book for the first time. A revelatory life story of one of today's most radical, charismatic, and beloved world leaders. Yet even more surprising than the

political Norman convinces is the Dalai Lamas astonishing spiritual practice rooted in magic vision and prophecy details of which are illuminated in this book for the first time

2006 The Aristocratic Families in Tibetan History This book was written by an expert of Tibetan studies, introducing the life of Tibetan aristocratic families in old Tibet between 1900 and 1951. It is written in easy words with scores of precious historical photos, providing important data for the research into social systems in old Tibet. 13th Dalai Lama fled to Mongolia but died on the way At that time Yangdzom Tsering already had a son named Phungtshons Rbrgys The Shatra family began to give a careful consideration to the young mother and her babys future life

2007-10-10 In a series of candid interviews with the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader speaks out about the land, people, culture, history, traditions, and spirituality of Tibet, discussing the role played by religion and spirituality in the nation's history, the Dalai Lama's flight into exile in 1959, his personal religious beliefs, and his lifelong study of Buddhism. Reprint. In a series of candid interviews with the Dalai Lama the spiritual leader speaks out about the land people culture history traditions and spirituality of Tibet discussing the role played by religion and spirituality in the nations

2013-07-12 In 1904, the Thirteenth Dalai Lama fled from the British invasion of Tibet to Mongolia in search of support from Russia. Although the mission failed, his extended

sojourn in Mongolia marked the beginning of political modernity in both Mongolia and Tibet. The Thirteenth Dalai Lama on the Run (1904-1906) is a facsimile collection comprising hitherto unpublished archival documents from Mongolia about this historical episode. Written in Mongolian, Manchu and Chinese, the documents concern the operation of the Mongol princes in hosting the Dalai Lama in Mongolia and the attempts made by the Qing frontier officials to remove him from Mongolia back to Tibet. Details of his extensive travels within the

country, the associated elaborate ritual activities and the great financial costs incurred which were borne by the Mongols, come to light for the first time in this publication. The documents which are supported by detailed captions are discussed in an in-depth introduction. dalai lama rewrote the regulations of the monastery in order to bring back some discipline to what he believed to a 13th dalai lama sent a memorial to the throne via Qing shu the Xining amban asking for punishment to be meted