June 10, 2020

CW: Police Brutality, Racism

Tashi Delek Stanford Community,

The Stanford Tibetan Student Union wants to take this time to acknowledge the recent murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and countless other unnamed Black people at the hands of police. These tragic incidents are not isolated occurrences - the long history of racist structures of oppression that America was built upon has resulted in the unjust deaths of Black people. This includes higher rates of unethical treatment of Black patients, a “justice” system that has a disproportionate adverse effect on Black people through the prison industrial complex, and technologies based on inherently biased data that hurt Black communities.

All of the members of TSU stand in solidarity with Stanford’s Black community and the greater Black community in demanding justice. It’s evident to us, along with many other Stanford VSOs, that there must be a fundamental change in how institutions like the U.S. justice system operate.

We realize the time it took for our organization to publically relay this message. Our members wanted to inform ourselves and take steps to ensure that our actions are rooted in “meaningful solidarity.” We acknowledge that in this timeframe members of the Black community have suffered, witnessed, and experienced trauma - and may have wondered where their friends and allies were. Again, TSU supports the Black community, those protesting systemic discrimination faced by the Black community, and those that are working tirelessly to pursue justice.

In addition, TSU recognizes the role our community has played in perpetuating anti-Black racism. TSU refuses to be complicit in racism. TSU is committed to confronting anti-Black racism as it occurs in our homes and our community spaces.

TSU is committed to practicing meaningful, effective allyship. Going forward, TSU will ensure that our members take every opportunity to educate ourselves and learn and practice allyship. We will take every initiative to be actively anti-racist.

In Solidarity,

Stanford Tibetan Student’s Union
Below are resources that were provided by Stanford’s Asian American Students’ Association in their June 2nd statement in addition to a few more links we believe are relevant to the Tibetan community; we hope that these links promote community members to further educate themselves on the systematic oppression Black Americans face and the role Asian Americans have played as racial wedge between minority communities.

- Translated + Culturally competent resource on how to start talking about anti-Blackness with family
  - Letters for Black Lives (2020)
    - Letters for Black Lives - Nepali
    - Letters for Black Lives - Hindi
  - Although translations in Tibetan are still in the works, there are resources in Hindi and Nepali (which a large portion of our community speaks)

- Asian American complacency in anti-Blackness (specifically with regards to Officer Thao and George Floyd’s death)
  - The officer who stood by as George Floyd died is Asian American. We need to talk about that.

- How the Model Minority Myth harms both Asian and Black communities
  - “Model Minority” Myth Again Used As A Racial Wedge Between Asians and Blacks

- Ways to support liberation movements if physically protesting is not an option
  - 26 Ways to be in the Struggle Beyond the Streets

- Imagining an abolitionist future
  - “Are Prisons Obsolete?” by Dr. Angela Davis

- Understanding the history of Black and Desi communities compiled by Anirvan Chatterjee of the Berkeley South Asian Radical History Walking Tour
  - The Secret History of South Asian and African Solidarity

- Other Guides and Resources
  - Asians4RacialJustice Resource Guide
  - A Guide to Allyship
  - BLM/Indigenous Resources and Funds