

# The Asian Reporter

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**Lust, Caution star looks for chemistry on set**

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**Mustache Brothers get serious for elections**

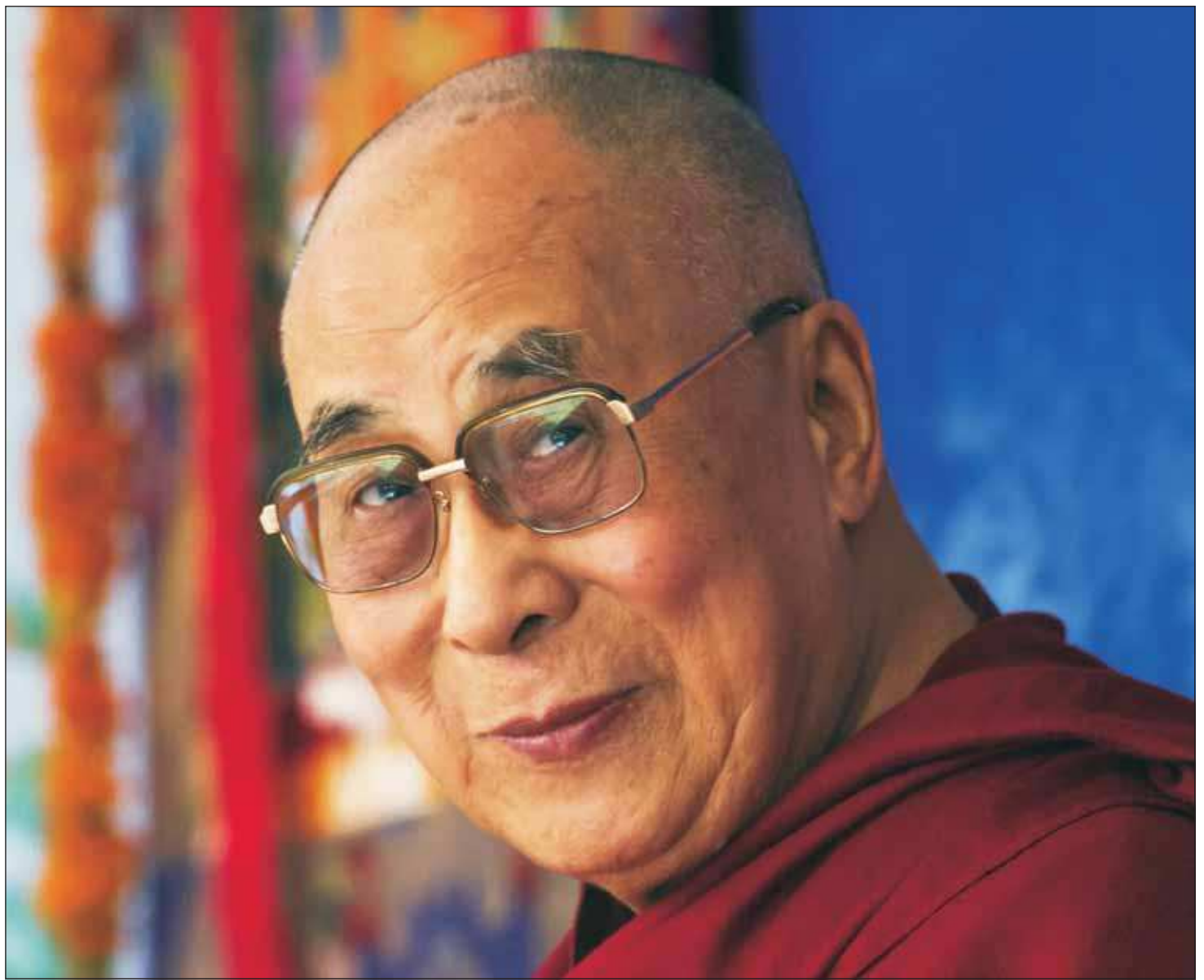
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**Orphaned sisters reunite after decades**

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## The Dalai Lama says Buddhist culture most important to him



**PRESERVATION A PRIORITY.** Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama arrives at a Tibetan school in Dharmasala, India, his first public function after returning from Minnesota in the United States, where he had a thorough medical checkup. The Dalai Lama says he considers it most important to preserve the Buddhist culture that has helped Tibetan people live together even in exile. Many Tibetans fear their culture may not endure for long and may weaken after the Dalai Lama is gone. (AP Photo/Ashwini Bhatia)

**By Ashwini Bhatia**  
The Associated Press

**D**HARMSALA, India — The Dalai Lama says he considers it most important to preserve the Buddhist culture that has helped the Tibetan people live together even in exile.

“Our values have helped us Tibetans live together as a people,” the 80-year-old spiritual leader said at his first public event after returning from a medical checkup in the United States. “So after coming into exile, I have considered it most

important to preserve this rich and profound culture that we have.”

Many Tibetans fear that their culture may not endure for long and may weaken after the Dalai Lama is gone.

Carrying white silk scarves, dozens of school children in traditional Tibetan costumes welcomed the Dalai Lama to the event, the 10th anniversary of the opening of a Tibetan school in Dharmasala, the Tibetan government-in-exile’s headquarters in northern India.

He also said he regretted that some people were using religion to harm others

and said he advocated education of secular values.

Earlier this month, the Dalai Lama said he’d had a thorough medical checkup at the renowned Mayo Clinic in Minnesota in the United States and was in “excellent condition.” Though advised to rest by doctors, the Dalai Lama got out of his car and walked nearly 100 yards to the school.

His followers lined the path with incense sticks and flowers. The Dalai Lama sat on a chair on a raised platform while others settled on cushions on the floor in a show of

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