

March 6, 2013

- Second Interdisciplinary Symposium for Emerging Scholars on India China Studies
- *Revealed: Himalayan Meltdown* Film Screening

March 7-8, 2013

Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya Conference

The ERSEH Conference is generously supported by the Henry Luce Foundation

Co-sponsored by Religious Studies at Lang, Tishman Environment and Design Center, Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management, and the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies

Organized in conjunction with Yale University

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ERSEH CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The India China Institute of The New School is pleased to welcome you to a two-day conference on Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya (ERSEH). The programming features papers that examine the eclectic beliefs and practices of people contending with the challenges of everyday life whose experiences are influenced by a range of perspectives, ideologies, institutions, and policies that impact resource management as well as human and non-human well-being. The emphasis on the behavior and thought of people who are not necessarily religious specialists focuses on environmental practice from a ground-up perspective while remaining attentive to the nuanced and often messy terrain of factors including religious hybridity, emergent cultural forms, market economics, development, globalization and climate change. The conference takes an open approach to the understanding of geographic boundaries and demarcations of the Himalaya and focuses on linkages between everyday religion and environmental sustainability in rapidly developing Himalayan urban centers, which are loci of increasing importance and scholarly attention. In engaging these themes, the conference also seeks to promote cross-disciplinary approaches, conversations, and collaborations.

The first two sessions showcase the preliminary outcomes of the exploratory research that the three-year ERSEH initiative inspired on the empirical study of water and waste management in China, India, and Nepal as well as more theoretical levels of inquiry. The second two sessions add the perspectives of scholars whose work engages similar themes in diverse regions of the Himalaya. The final panel reflects on the collective contributions and explores possibilities for applying the scholarship and broader areas of inquiry to programming and policy.

The conference is generously funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and is co-sponsored by Religious Studies at Lang, the Tishman Environment and Design Center, Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management, and the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies. The program is also organized in conjunction with Yale University.

ERSEH CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya

The New School: Theresa Lang Community and Student Center, 55 W. 13th Street, 2nd Floor

Day 1: Thursday, March 7

8:30 AM- 9:00 AM Opening Registration and Coffee/Tea/Pastries

9:00 AM - 9:15 AM Welcome Remarks

David Van Zandt, President, The New School

Ashok Gurung, Senior Director, India China Institute

Toby Volkman, Director of Policy Initiatives and Secretary, Henry Luce Foundation

9:15 AM - 12:00 PM Session I: ERSEH Research Papers

Chair: Mark Turin, Program Director, Yale Himalaya Initiative; Director, Digital Himalaya Project, Cambridge and Yale

Paper 1: "Water Connection: Everyday Religion and Environment in The Kathmandu Valley"

Mukta Singh Lama, Professor, Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

Laxmi Shova Shakya, Research Fellow of Harka Gurung Research Fellowship, Nepal

Paper 2: "Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya - Shangri-la"

Li Bo, Secretary General, Friends of Nature, China, ICI Fellow

Paper 3: "De-Mystifying 'Choko Pani' as the Interface between Society, Religion, and Environment in Darjeeling and Sikkim"

Mahendra Lama, Professor, South Asian Economies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, ICI Fellow

Roshan Rai, Research Associate for Prerna, India

Paper 4: "Everyday Religion in Kangding: The Natural, Social and Religious Life of Water and the Politics of Production"

Nyimatashi, Associate Professor, Anthropology Southwest University for Nationalities, China

Liu Yong, Professor, Southwest University for Nationalities, China

Paper 5: "Beyond Contradiction: Sacred Waters, Relational Ecologies, and the Dialogism of Everyday Religion"

Georgina Drew, ICI Postdoctoral Fellow, The New School

ERSEH CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Discussants:

Anne Rademacher, Assistant Professor, Metropolitan Studies and Environmental Studies, Director,
Social and Cultural Analysis, New York University

Pankaj Jain, Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Philosophy and Religious Studies,
University of North Texas

Mary Evelyn Tucker, Senior Lecturer and Research Scholar, Yale University

Discussion: Open Floor

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM On-Site Lunch

1:30 PM- 3:15 PM Session II: ERSEH Concepts and Debates

Chair: **David Holmberg**, Professor, Anthropology and Asia Studies, Cornell University

Paper 6: “Where Religion Lives: A Framework for Studying Religion and Sustainable
Environments”

Mark Larrimore, Associate Professor, Religious Studies, The New School

Paper 7: “Must we mean what we do when it comes to sustainability: What the Himalayas teach
consumer capitalists about material practices”

Cameron Tonkinwise, Director, Design Studies, Carnegie Mellon University

Paper 8: “General and Specific Issues for Discussing Everyday Religion and Sustainable
Environments in the Himalaya”

Thomas Mathew, Writer and Consultant, India China Institute, The New School

Discussants:

David Germano, Professor, Tibetan Studies, University of Virginia

Mary Cameron, President, Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies, Professor,
Anthropology, Florida Atlantic University

Bron Taylor, Professor, Religious Studies, University of Florida

Discussion: Open Floor

3:15 PM - 3:30 PM Tea Break

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Session III: Identity, Materiality, and Health

Chair: **Charles Ramble**, Director of Studies, Tibetan History and Philology, Ecole Pratique des
Hautes Etudes, Paris

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Paper 9: “The Punya and Pap of Pigeons: Everyday Religion, Material Culture, and Public Health in Urban Kathmandu”

Todd Lewis, Professor, World Religions, College of the Holy Cross

Paper 10: “Environmental Imaginaries of Pollution: Waste Management Challenges in Bhutan”
Elizabeth Alison, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Religion, California Institute of Integral Studies

Paper 11: “Exchange and Relationship with the Environment in Tibet: Reflections on Treasure Revelation and its Role in Contemporary Tibetan Buddhist”
Antonio Terrone, Lecturer, Religious Studies, Northwestern University

Discussants:

Kurtis Schaeffer, Professor, Religious Studies, University of Virginia

Andrew Quintman, Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, Yale University

Discussion: Open Floor

5:30 PM

Program for March 7 Concludes

Day 2: Friday, March 8

9:45 AM – 10:00 AM Tea & Coffee

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Session IV: Practice in Sacred Landscapes

Chair: Kamaljit Bawa, Professor, Biology, University of Massachusetts

Paper 12: “Deities Bring Foreigners to See Mount Everest: Tourism, Everyday Buddhism, and Environmental Sustainability in the World’s Highest Ecosystem”

Jeremy Spoon, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Portland State University; Research Associate, The Mountain Institute

Paper 13: “Sentience of the Earth: Eco-Buddhist Mandalizing of Dwelling Place in Amdo”

Dan Smyer Yu, Research Group Leader, Religious Diversity, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

Paper 14: “The Sacred and the Material: Everyday Choices in Resource Landscape in the Indian Himalayas”

Samuel Thomas, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, India

ERSEH CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Discussants:

Tsering Shakya, Canada Research Chair, Religion and Contemporary Society in Asia, University of British Columbia

Kathryn March, Professor, Anthropology, Cornell University

Discussion: Open Floor

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch Break (Off-Site)

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM Session V: **ERSEH: Connections, Provocations, and Policy Implications**

Roundtable Discussion: Co-Chair: **Ashok Gurung**, Senior Director, India China Institute

Discussants:

Anil Chitrakar, Chairperson, Himalayan Climate Initiative, Nepal

Eklabya Sharma, Director, Programme Operations, ICIMOD, Nepal

Li Bo, ICI Fellow, Friends of Nature Board Member, China

Mahendra Lama, Professor, South Asian Economies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, ICI Fellow

Jeremy Spoon, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Portland State University; Research Associate, The Mountain Institute

3:30 PM – 4:00 PM Closing Remarks:

Georgina Drew, Postdoctoral Fellow, India China Institute

Ashok Gurung, Senior Director, India China Institute

CONFERENCE PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

In order of appearance

David E. Van Zandt is the President of The New School. He is the former Dean of Northwestern University School of Law. He has taught courses in international financial markets, business associations, property, practical issues in business law, and legal realism. He is an expert in business associations, international business transactions, property law, jurisprudence, law and social science, and legal education. President graduated summa cum laude from Princeton University with a degree in sociology. He completed his Juris Doctor (J.D.) at Yale University, where he served as managing editor for the Yale Law Journal, and earned his Ph.D. in sociology at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Ashok Gurung is the founding Senior Director of India China Institute (ICI) and a Faculty member at the Graduate Program in International Affairs (GPIA) at The New School, New York City. His research and teaching interests include project design and development management, capacity-building, inequality, environment, and inclusive democracy. Gurung has over twenty-five years of international development experience in several countries, with a particular focus in South and Southeast Asia. Along with managing ICI, he teaches the graduate course Society and Politics in Nepal and coordinates the international field program in Nepal, and he serves as a co-editor for the India-China Working Paper Series. He was also the co-editor of *Growing Cities in a Shrinking World* (Macmillan India, 2009). Prior to joining The New School, Gurung was the program officer for the International Fellowships Program, the largest global leadership initiative of the Ford Foundation, and an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University. He holds a MA in Economic and Political Development from Columbia University.

Toby Volkman has been the secretary and director of policy initiatives at the Henry Luce Foundation since March 2009. Her responsibilities include directing the Henry R. Luce Initiative on Religion and International Affairs. She previously served as a Ford Foundation program officer on the “Crossing Borders” initiative to renew interest and innovation in the field of area studies. She was a deputy provost at The New School, directed the South and Southeast Asia Programs at the Social Science Research Council and was the deputy provost at the New School. Her publications include *Feasts of Honor: Ritual and Change in the Toraja Highlands* (1985) and the edited volumes *Cultures of Transnational Adoption* (2005) and *Origins, Journeys and Returns: Social Justice in International Higher Education* (2009).

Mark Turin is Program Director of the Yale Himalaya Initiative at Yale University. Dr. Turin is an anthropologist and linguist trained in the UK and the Netherlands. His scholarly focus is on the Himalayan region, in particular Nepal, northern India, Bhutan and cultural Tibet. Dr. Turin teaches at Cambridge and Yale Universities, where he also directs two international research projects, Digital Himalaya and the World Oral Literature Project. He is the editor of the Oral Literature Series with Open Book Publishers in Cambridge and co-edits the journal *Himalaya*. He is also the presenter of a new BBC radio series on language endangerment entitled *Our Language in Your Hands*.

Mukta S. Lama (Tamang) is a socio-cultural anthropologist and teaches at the Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology at Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. His research interest includes history, identity, social change, equality and human rights in Nepal, Himalayas and South Asian region. He is currently working on a book project on Tamang history and identity based on his ethnographic research and has published several articles on the themes of indigenous activism, democracy, diversity, Maoist movement and

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state structuring. He received his PhD from Cornell University. He was also a Visiting Fellow at Goldsmiths College, University of London and Jawaharlal Nehru University from 2009-2012 in conjunction with a joint research project on "Social Inequality and Affirmative Action in South Asia."

Laxmi Shova Shakya is a Research Associate for Every day Religion and Sustainable Environment in Himalayas (ERSEH) of India China Institute, The New School and Research Fellow of Harka Gurung Research Fellowship in Nepal. Laxmi worked with United Mission to Nepal (UMN) for 10 years as Office Secretary, Office Assistant and Senior Administrative/Account Assistant. She is now working as an Executive Director of Society for Participatory Cultural Education (SPACE) for a project funded by AWO International, Germany.

Li Bo currently serves as the Secretary General of Friends of Nature, the oldest environmental NGO in China. He was also a former India China Institute Fellow (2008-2010). In addition he is a consultant with the Stockholm Environmental Institute-Asia (SEI-Asia) in Bangkok, a research associate at the Center for Human and Economics Development Studies at Peking University, and an adjunct researcher of environmental justice at the Institute of Environmental Laws at Zhongnan University of Economics and Law in Wuhan, Central China. As a fellow, Li explored the extent to which democratic decision making at the grassroots level is conducive to strong local stewardship of natural resource management and sustainable livelihoods.

Mahendra P. Lama is Professor of South Asian Economies in the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He was the founding Vice Chancellor of the newly established Central University of Sikkim in India created by an act of Parliament in 2007 and became the youngest Vice Chancellor of a National University in India. Prof Lama was till very recently a member of the prestigious National Security Advisory Board of Government of India. He is presently nominated by the Government of India as a member of the South Asian Forum Steering Committee set up by the 16th SAARC Summit. He also served as the Chief Economic Adviser in the Government of Sikkim with a Cabinet Minister rank for seven years (2000-2007). He has been nominated by the Government of India in the executive boards of various leading institutions of India.

Roshan Rai works on issues of environment and equity in the Darjeeling Himalaya. He has been a development worker with DLR Prerna, India since 1996. With a special interest in change and participatory governance, Roshan's intervention has revolved around inclusion of tea workers in fair-trade movements, forest villagers in conservation efforts and in strengthening small farmers' collectives and NGOs through capacity enhancement and advocacy. In the urban landscape his action revolves around water and waste. Innovative partnerships with small farmers, tea garden workers and forest villagers have resulted in seminal sustainable development models including Darjeeling's first organic and fair-trade small farmer tea collective – Mineral Spring Sanjukta Vikash Sanstha. Roshan actively engages with educational institutions promoting social consciousness and action. His publications highlight the issues of marginal communities in the Darjeeling Himalaya and the importance of inclusion in development intervention and policy debate.

Nyima Tashi works in modern Tibetan study (Tibetology) and anthropology. He is an Associate Professor at the Southwest University for Nationalities in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China. He has an MA in

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Social Anthropology from the University of Manchester(2003), a Phd in Tibetology(Tibetan Social and Cultural Study) from the China Tibetology (2009), has been granted a Chevening Scholarship by the British Government (2002-2003) and was a Harvard Yenjing Visiting Scholar (Aug. 2012- June 2013). His publications include one academic book (The Termination of the Village and Reconstruction of Local Culture: the Urbanisation and Lhasa's Liuwu Village Displaced Farmer's Culture Value Study, 2012, China Minzu Publishing House, Beijing) and twenty-five papers from 2003 to 2012.

Liu Yong is a Tibetan academic and currently a Professor in the Department of Ethnology at the Southwest University for Nationalities in Chengdu, China in the Department of Tibetology. Previously, he has also been a lecturer with ICI and between 2005-2007, he was the Vice Mayor of Dujiangyan city, Sichuan province.

Georgina Drew is a Post-Doctoral Fellow of the India China Institute at The New School where she works with an initiative on Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya. Georgina's past research has examined the cultural and religious dimensions of environmental conflict along the upper stretch of the Ganga River in India. Her work and writing explores mixed development desires, gendered practice, human-nature relationships, and the cultural politics of resource management. At ICI, Georgina teaches, continues her research, and helps to build a network of scholars investigating the significance of everyday or lived religion in rapidly developing centers of the Himalaya.

Anne Rademacher is an Assistant Professor of Metropolitan Studies and Environmental Studies, and the Director of Undergraduate Studies, in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University. Anne's research interests include environmental anthropology, modern ecology and statemaking, sustainable design in urban settings, and urban ecology.

Dr. Pankaj Jain is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Anthropology and Philosophy & Religion Studies at the University of North Texas. He is the author of award-winning *Dharma and Ecology of Hindu Communities: Sustenance and Sustainability* (May 2011) and several articles published in academic and popular journals. He participated in the first ERSEH workshop in Nepal in 2010 and received the Fulbright Fellowship in June-Oct 2012 for Environmental Leadership to research different Himalayan NGOs working in indigenous technology, agriculture, horticulture, water resources, and renewable energy. He serves as a research affiliate with Harvard University's Pluralism Project, as scholar-in-residence with GreenFaith, as a board member of the Society for Hindu Christian Studies, and as the Bhumi-Seva & Eco-Dharma Project Director of Hindu American Seva Communities, an NGO working with the White House Office for the faith-based initiatives. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, an M.A. from Columbia University (both in Religious Studies), and had worked as a software engineer in New Jersey and in India in his "previous life".

Mary Evelyn Tucker is a Senior Lecturer and Senior Research Scholar at Yale University where she has appointments in the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies as well as the Divinity School. She is a co-founder and co-director with John Grim of the Forum on Religion and Ecology. Together they organized a series of ten conferences on World Religions and Ecology at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard Divinity School.

David Holmberg is Professor of Anthropology and Asian Studies at Cornell University where he chaired the Department of Anthropology for fourteen years. His ethnographic research has concentrated on the

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Tamang of Nepal focusing initially on religion and social organization culminating in the monograph *Order and Paradox: Myth, Ritual, and Exchange among Nepal's Tamang*. More recently, he has conducted ethnohistorical work on systems of forced labor in Nepal and on conceptions of power and the rise of indigenous people in the political life of Nepal as well as on the cultural rights of indigenous peoples, work that has appeared in the *American Ethnologist*, *Critique of Anthropology*, *Signs*, and *Studies in Nepalese History and Society* as well as in edited volumes. He is currently completing a book manuscript *Extractive Labor/Productive Ritual*.

Mark Larrimore is an Associate Professor in the department of Religion Studies at Eugene College for Liberal Arts at The New School. Prof. Mark Larrimore has taught courses on Theorizing Religion, Cultures of Religious Right, Religion and Democracy, Religious Geography of New York and Religion and Theatre. He received his PhD in Religion at Princeton University and his BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Worcester College, Oxford.

Cameron Tonkinwise is the Director of Design Studies at the School of Design at Carnegie Mellon University. He has a background in philosophy; his dissertation concerned the educational philosophies of Martin Heidegger. Cameron continues to research what designers can learn from philosophies of making, material culture studies and sociologies of technology. Cameron is facilitating the School of Design's creation of a new Design Studies sequence of courses that better prepare designers for a wider scope of work and the more interdisciplinary challenges of 21st century societies. Cameron is leading the Design PhD Program at CMU, which has a focus on practice-based research in the areas of sustainable design, social innovation and service design.

Thomas Mathew is currently an independent researcher and ICI consultant based in Kathmandu. He has an MA in Modern History from Jawaharlal Nehru University.

David Germano is a Professor in Tibetan Studies at the University of Virginia. Germano is director of the Tibet Center (www.uvatibetcenter.org), director of SHANTI (Sciences, Humanities, and the Arts Network of Technological Initiatives—www.shanti.virginia.edu), and Coordinating Director of the Contemplative Sciences Center at the University of Virginia. He also is the editor of the *Journal of the International Association of Tibetan Studies*, the official journal of the main international organization of Tibetan Studies, and is the founder and director of the Tibetan and Himalayan Library (THL, www.thlib.org), the largest international initiative using digital technology to facilitate collaboration in Tibetan Studies across disciplines.

Mary Cameron is the current president of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies (ANHS) and a Professor of Anthropology in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters at Florida Atlantic University where she teaches and explores issues of Ayurvedic medicine, gender and caste, sustainable farming, medicinal plant conservation, and development in Nepal and South Asia. Professor Cameron is the former director of the Women's Studies Program at Auburn University and at FAU. She is an award-winning book author and has published numerous articles and book chapters on gender, caste, culture and health in South Asia. Professor Cameron has received many competitive research grants, including three Fulbright fellowships, that have supported nearly three decades of research in South Asia.

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Dr. Bron Taylor is Professor of Religion and Nature at the University of Florida and a Fellow from the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at Ludwig-Maximilians – Universität, München. Taylor works principally in the areas of religion and ecology, environmental ethics and environmental philosophy. He is also a prominent historian and ethnographer of environmentalism and especially radical environmentalist movements, surfing culture and naturebased spiritualities. Taylor is also Editor-in-Chief of the *Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* and subsequently founded the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture, serving as its President from 2006- 2009. He also founded the Society's affiliated *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, serving as its editor since 2007.

Professor Charles Ramble is Directeur d'Etudes (Director of Studies) in Tibetan History and Philology at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes in Paris, and Research Lecturer in Tibetan and Himalayan Studies at the University of Oxford. He has taught courses on Anthropology of Tibet and the Himalaya and his research interests include civil society and pagan religion in the Himalaya, the Bon religion of Tibet and the pilgrimage and sacred geography.

Todd Lewis is a Professor of World Religions in the Religious Studies Department at the College of the Holy Cross where he has taught since 1990. In 1996, he was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Religious Studies and in 2003 was promoted to the rank of Professor. He has also been a Research Associate in the Department of Sanskrit and Indian Studies at Harvard University since 1999.

Elizabeth Allison is an Assistant Professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, where she is founder and chair of the graduate program in Ecology, Spirituality, and Religion. Her writing has appeared in *Mountain Research and Development*, *The Progressive Christian*, and *The Spider and the Piglet*, an anthology of studies of Bhutan. She authored several entries in the *Encyclopedia of Sustainability*, and is working on a book about the spiritual significance of glaciers in an age of climate change. After studying on a Fulbright fellowship in Nepal, she received her PhD in Environmental Science, Policy and Management from the University of California, Berkeley. She also holds a Master of Arts in Religion from Yale Divinity School, and a Master of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Antonio Terrone is a lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies at Northwestern University. Antonio specializes in Chinese, Tibetan, and Himalayan religions and cultures with a focus on Tibetan Buddhism as well as religion and ethnic nationalities policy in the People's Republic of China (namely Tibetans and Uyghurs). His present work centers on rituals and practice within noncelibate Buddhist Tantric communities of present-day Tibet in the People's Republic of China. He received his M.A. degree from the Department of Asian Studies of the Oriental Institute of Napoli University (Istituto Universitario "L'Orientale," Italy) in 1997 with a major in Chinese and Tibetan studies and a minor in Japanese studies and received his doctoral degree (2010) in Religious Studies/Asian Studies from Leiden University in the Netherlands.

Kurtis Schaeffer is a Professor in the department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia. His research interests are Tibetan Buddhism, Tibetan History, Indian Buddhism, Nepal, and the Dalai Lama.

Andrew Quintman is Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, specializing in the Buddhist traditions of

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Tibet and the Himalaya, in the Department of Religious Studies at Yale. His areas of teaching and research include Buddhist literature and sacred biography, visual and ritual cultures of the wider Himalayan region, and the esoteric Buddhist traditions of Tantra in Tibet. His recent book project, *The Yogin and the Madman: Reading the Biographical Corpus of Tibet's Great Saint Milarepa* (forthcoming, Columbia University Press), explores the extensive body of early literature recording the life of Tibet's acclaimed eleventh-century yogin and poet Milarepa. His new English translation of *The Life of Milarepa* was published by Penguin Classics in 2010. Prior to coming to Yale, he served for seven years as Academic Director of the School for International Training's Tibetan Studies program based in Kathmandu. He is Faculty Coordinator for the new Yale Himalaya Initiative and Co-Chair of the Tibetan and Himalayan Religions Group of the American Academy of Religion, where he also is co-leading a five-year seminar at the AAR on Religion and the Literary in Tibet.

Kamaljit Bawa is an evolutionary ecologist, conservation biologist and a distinguished professor of Biology at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. He is also the founder of Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE). In 2012, Bawa received the first Gunnerus Sustainability Award, the world's major international award for work on sustainability. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Jeremy Spoon is an Assistant Professor in the Anthropology Department at Portland State University and Research Associate at The Mountain Institute. Dr. Spoon's research focuses on how political, economic, and ecological forces influence ecological knowledge and understanding inside and around mountainous protected areas in the Himalayas and Great Basin. He is interested in how power relations shape perceptions and knowledge of place and whether or not the local decisions of these actors are socially, environmentally, and/or economically sustainable at certain points in time and in different contexts. Dr. Spoon also strives to apply research findings to projects created in participatory ways.

Dan Smyer Yu is the Research Group Leader at the Department of Religious Diversity, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. He is an anthropologist specializing in the studies of religious revitalizations, charismatic communities, commercialization of religious spirituality, and the relationship between eco-religious practices and place-making in contemporary China. He received his Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from the University of California at Davis. Prior to his joining Max Planck, he was a New Millennium Scholar and the Associate Director of the Ethnic Minority Study Center of China at Minzu University of China. He also taught and held research positions at the University of California, Davis, Graduate Theological Union, San Francisco Theological Seminary, and Sacramento City College, and the Center for the Pacific Rim of University of San Francisco.

Samuel Thomas works with the Eastern Himalayas Programme of the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), based in Darjeeling. He has spent over a decade working in the Himalayas, first with IUCN - the World Conservation Union in Nepal, and now with ATREE in the Indian Eastern Himalayas. He managed the CEPF grants programme and the ATREE small grants programme in northeast India from 2007-2011, working with a range of civil society groups for research and local conservation action in the region. He has a keen interest in conservation and development issues in the Himalayas, especially traditional resource management and conservation practices and the rights of indigenous peoples.

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Tsering Shakya is the Canada Research Chair in Religion and Contemporary Society in Asia at the Institute of Asian Research at the University of British Columbia. Tsering is a world renowned and widely published scholar, on both historic and contemporary Tibet. His most expansive work to date *The Dragon in the Land of Snows: A History of Modern Tibet Since 1947* (Pimlico, London 1999) was acclaimed as “the definitive history of modern Tibet” by *The New York Times*, and “a prodigious work of scholarship” by the UK’s *Sunday Telegraph*. The book is the first comprehensive account of Tibet’s recent history.

Kathryn March is a Professor of Anthropology and Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and Public Affairs at Cornell University. Dr. March is also an Academic Supervisor for Nepali Language at Cornell University and Academic Director of the Cornell-Nepal Study Program at Tribhuvan University. Her research interests are sociocultural anthropology, gender, narrative, social change, life histories, ethnohistory, Nepal, Himalayas, and Tibet. She is currently working on two projects: first, to follow the personal experiences of the burgeoning numbers of migrant workers into global wage labor from the Tamang community where she has worked since 1976 and, second, to create a digital archive of research materials from that community that can be searched both geospatially and genealogically as well as by more conventional means.

Anil Chitrakar, Chairperson of the Himalayan Climate Initiative, is a social entrepreneur from Nepal. Trained as an engineer and energy planner at the University of Rajasthan (India) and the University of Pennsylvania (USA), Anil started his career as an energy engineer and continues to work on designing and spreading renewable energy solutions across Nepal. He has received the Ashoka fellowship, and more recently the Silicon Valley Tech Award for his work. Anil is also engaged in recovering and restoring the built and living heritage in the Kathmandu valley and across Nepal, particularly Lumbini. Anil was part of the team that implemented the National Conservation Strategy for Nepal, preserving its globally unique natural endowment. Anil has also managed venture funds for environmental groups all over Nepal. In 1993 he was one of the 100 “Global Leaders for Tomorrow” awardees at the World Economic Forum in Davos.

Dr. Eklabya Sharma is the Director of Programme Operations at the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development. Dr. Sharma is an ecologist with over 25 years of experience in developing, managing, and implementing programmes, mainly in sustainable management of natural resources in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region. Between 1989 and 2001, he established the GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development in Sikkim, an autonomous regional research centre of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, as the founder Scientist In-charge. In 1994, he spent some time at the University of Glasgow as a visiting scientist under the exchange programme between the Indian National Science Academy and the Royal Society of Great Britain. He joined ICIMOD in 2001 and has served as Programme Manager of Farming Systems, Natural Resources Management, and Environmental Change and Ecosystem Services.

SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW

India China Conversations: The Second Interdisciplinary Symposium for Emerging Scholars is part of ICI's continuing commitment to build a community of scholars who are engaged in research that focuses on new and innovative approaches to understanding India-China relations. Presenters selected for this symposium share a broad interest in India-China relations in a globalizing world. Held in conjunction with India China Institute's major spring 2013 conference, Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya, the symposium will provide a platform for a select group of early career scholars from India, China, and the United States to present their work and to participate in multi-disciplinary investigation and deliberation with distinguished scholars.

When discussing the work of each of the presenters, we hope to identify relevant methodological and substantive questions, and where possible answers, through a productive confrontation of diverse disciplinary perspectives. Relevant cross-cutting themes will include the role to be played by received and privileged spatial and institutional frames, such as that of the nation-state, in scholarly analyses within the field, and how to address historical and contemporary concerns while avoiding anachronistic fallacies.

We hope that the symposium will provide a milestone in the intellectual definition and institutional development of the field, enhance the sense of community within it, and help to foster more productive directions for teaching and scholarship.

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

India China Conversations: Second Interdisciplinary Symposium for Emerging Scholars

The New School: Dorothy Hirshon Suite, 55 W. 13th Street, 2nd Floor

Wednesday, March 6

8:30 AM- 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM - 9:15 AM Opening Remarks by Ashok Gurung, Senior Director, India China Institute

9:15 AM - 11:15 AM Session I: China and India: Historical and Contemporary Connections

Chair: **Benjamin Lee**, Professor of Anthropology and Philosophy, New School for Social Research, and founding Director of India China Institute

Presenters:

Dhriti Roy, Assistant Professor in the Department of Asian Languages, Sikkim University
“Reorienting Chinese Buddhist Monastic Tradition: Redefining Sino-Indian Buddhist Monastic Relations”

Anil Kumar, PhD Candidate, Delhi University
“Rising India: A Chinese Perspective”

Xin Zhang, Faculty Fellow, School of Advanced International and Area Studies, East China Normal University
“Governing State Capitalism and Overseas Expansion: A Comparative Study of Chinese and Indian National Oil Companies”

Discussants:

Tansen Sen, Associate Professor of Asian History, Baruch College

Mark Frazier, Professor of Politics, New School for Social Research and Academic Co-Director of India China Institute

L.H.M. Ling, Associate Professor, Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School

Question and Answer Session

11:15 AM- 11:30 AM Coffee Break

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

11:30 AM- 1:00 PM Session II: The State of India-China Studies in India and China

Chair: **Ashok Gurung**, Senior Director, India China Institute

Presenters:

Liu Jian, Senior Professor, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Tansen Sen, Associate Professor of Asian History, Baruch College

Discussion

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Lunch provided at Jackson Diner (72 University Place)

2:30 PM- 4:10 PM Session III: Comparative Rural and Urban Perspectives

Chair: **Nimmi Kurian**, Associate Professor, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

Presenters:

Shahana Chattaraj, Post-doctoral Fellow, The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania
"Remaking Shanghai, Unmaking Mumbai: Urban Restructuring in Globalizing Cities"

Yifei Yan, Erasmus Mundus student, European Master in Law and Economics, Indira Gandhi
Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai
"Farmer Response to an Aggravating Urban-Rural Disparity: A Comparative Law and Political
Economy Case for China and India"

Discussants:

Vijayanthi Rao, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, New School for Social Research
Nidhi Srinivas, Associate Professor of Nonprofit Management, Milano the New School for
Management and Urban Policy

Question and Answer Session

SYMPOSIUM PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

In order of appearance

Benjamin Lee is a Professor of Anthropology and Philosophy and founding Director of India China Institute. He is also the former provost of The New School, where he currently teaches courses on the intersections of design, finance and social science at Parsons: The New School for Design. Lee was a professor of Anthropology and Asian Studies at Rice University where he also directed the Transnational China Project at the James A. Baker Institute of Policy Studies, a visiting professor at the University of Hong Kong in the Department of Comparative Literature, and the founding Director for the Center for Transcultural Studies in Chicago. He holds a PhD in Anthropology, a MA in Human Development from the University of Chicago, and a BA in Psychology from Johns Hopkins University. Lee has written extensively on the anthropology and philosophy of language, literary theory, and global cultural studies.

Dhriti Roy is an Associate Fellow at Sikkim University, Gangtok. She is currently working on her thesis titled “A Critical Study of India China Monastic Relations in the Fifth Century C.E. Based on a New Annotated Translation of Fo Guo Ji (Faxian’s Itinerary).” She was awarded the prestigious Chinese Government Scholarship for a year in 2008 to learn modern Mandarin at the College of Chinese Language and Culture, Beijing Normal University, China. Her publications include “Tagore’s Role In Strengthening Sino-Indian Relations” in the Journal of Astha-Bharati and “A Search For The Rudiments Of Political Thought In Ancient Confucianism” in The Visva-Bharati Quarterly.

Anil Kumar is a Doctoral Candidate working on Sino-Indian Relations (1998-2010): A Constructivist Approach in the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Delhi, in India. His research interests center on China and Indian Ocean, Chinese Military Modernization, China and South China Sea, China's Military Infrastructure in Tibet, China-Pakistan nuclear nexus, India's Look East Policy, India-US relations, India-Japan relations, Sino-US ties, India-ASEAN ties, China's Foreign Policy, International Relations Theory, and Sino-India Relations post-Pokhran-II.

Xin Zhang holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles and studied economics at Fudan University in Shanghai. Between 2010-2012, he was a visiting assistant professor in political science at Reed College in Oregon, U.S. He recently joined the School of Advanced International Relations and Area Studies, East China Normal University in Shanghai as a post-doctoral fellow (faculty track). Broadly, his research lies at the intersection of political economy, development, property rights, comparative capitalism, and governance. His dissertation offers a socio-legal theory to explain the high degree of insecurity of corporate property in post-privatization Russia. His recent comparative project examines the forms and nature of state capitalism in major emerging economies (e.g. Russia, China, and India) since the end of the Cold War. He has published in the *China Journal* and several book chapters in both English and Chinese on energy politics in Eurasia, social development in rural China, and politics of macroeconomic policy in China and Russia.

Tansen Sen is Associate Professor of Asian history and religions at Baruch College, The City University of New York. Currently he is visiting senior research fellow and head of the Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. He is the author of *Buddhism, Diplomacy, and Trade: The Realignment of Sino-Indian Relations, 600-1400* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2003) and co-author of *Traditional China in Asian and World History* (with Victor H. Mair, Association for Asian Studies, 2012). He has edited *Buddhism Across Asia: Networks of Material, Cultural and Intellectual Exchange* (Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, forthcoming) and guest-edited special issues of *China Report*. With Wang Bangwei

SYMPOSIUM PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

In order of appearance

he has co-edited *India and China: Interactions through Buddhism and Diplomacy: A Collection of Essays* by Professor Prabodh Chandra Bagchi (Anthem Press, 2011). He is currently working on two book projects, one examines cross-cultural trade in Asia during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and the second is titled *India, China, and the World: Networks of Exchange and Interactions*. He is the series editor for *Anthem-ISEAS India-China Studies Series*.

Mark Frazier teaches and writes about the political economy of China. In the Fall of 2012, he joined The New School as academic director and Endowed Professor at the India China Institute and Professor at the Politics Department. To his new role, Mark Frazier brings two decades of research on political economy and labor politics in China and on Chinese-Indian relations. Frazier, who most recently served as ConocoPhillips Professor of Chinese Politics and director of International and Area Studies at the University of Oklahoma, earned his PhD in political science from the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of *Socialist Insecurity: Pensions and the Politics of Uneven Development in China* (Cornell, 2010) and *The Making of the Chinese Industrial Workplace: State, Revolution and Labor Management* (Cambridge, 2002). A former journalist, Frazier's work for *Roll Call* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

L.H.M. Ling (PhD, MIT) is Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, New School for Public Engagement (NSPE) and Associate Professor in the Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy, at The New School in New York City. Her research focuses on developing a post-Westphalian approach to world politics through the notion of "multiple worlds" or worldism. Dr. Ling is the author of three books: *Postcolonial International Relations: Conquest and Desire between Asia and the West* (2002), *Transforming World Politics: From Empire to Multiple Worlds* (2009), co-authored with Anna M. Agathangelou (York University), and *The Dao of World Politics: Towards a Post-Westphalian, Worldist International Relations* (2013). Additionally, Dr. Ling is developing a textbook, *Learning World Politics: People, Power, Perspective, Volume I: Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam*, to introduce Other worlds to IR/world politics, and a book of plays, as an experimental pedagogy, titled, *Play on Worlds: A Performative Pedagogy for International Relations*. Both are for advanced undergraduates and entry-level graduate students. From 2008-2010, Dr. Ling was a Faculty Fellow with the India China Institute (ICI) at The New School. She is editing a manuscript with other ICI Fellows titled, *Rethinking Borders and Security, India and China: New Connections for Ancient Geographies* (forthcoming). Dr. Ling's articles have appeared in various journals and anthologies.

Ashok Gurung (See Conference Panelist Biographies)

Liu Jian is a professor at the Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and an executive editor of the Chinese journal of South Asian Studies. His special fields of study are the Indian and South Asian Studies. His main publications include *Yindu* (India, co-authored, 2003, 2010); *Yindu Wenming* (Indian Civilization, co-authored; 2004, 2008); *Erzhanhou Nanya Guojia Duiwai Guanxi Yanjiu* (Foreign Policies and International Relations of South Asian Countries, co-authored, 2007); and *Mengjialaguo* (Bangladesh, 2010).

Nimmi Kurian is an Associate Professor at the Centre for Policy Research, in New Delhi, India, and a Fellow with the India China Institute, at The New School. Her work has focused on exploring major debates in India's and China's foreign policies, the evolving discourse on redefining security, state-society relations

SYMPOSIUM PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

In order of appearance

and issues relating to sub-regional governance. Some recent themes she has worked on include India's Look-East policy, post-Mao policy shifts in China's regional development; particularly the political thrust given to integrating southwestern China with the extended region and issues of social exclusion in India and China. Professor Kurian is the author of *Emerging China and India's Policy Options* (Lancers, 2001) and the editor of *Welfare States and the Future* (with B. Vivekanandan, Palgrave Macmillan, 2005). She is currently working on a new book titled *Margins and Mainstreams: Regional Imaginaries in India and China*.

Shahana Chattaraj is a postdoctoral researcher in Global Cities at the Lauder Institute for the 2012-2013 academic year. She holds a Ph.D. in public affairs (urban planning/sociology) from Princeton University and a M.A. in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Shahana's research interests are located broadly at the intersection of globalization, economic development and urbanization in emerging economies, with a particular interest in state-business-civil society relations in globalizing cities, the informal economy, and emerging patterns of socio-economic and socio-spatial inequality in urban centers. Her dissertation compares urban restructuring in the context of globalization in Mumbai and Shanghai, with a focus on the role of the sub-national state. While at Lauder, Dr. Chattaraj will be preparing an article for publication on the political economy of Mumbai, and working on a book manuscript based on her dissertation. She will also be leading a graduate seminar on Cities in the Global Economy, and co-teaching a City and Regional Planning course on urban poverty, as well as advising Lauder students in their own research. Dr. Chattaraj is also involved in a comparative urban research project on urban governance with the Center for Policy Research, New Delhi, and is collaborating with the Penn Institute of Urban Research on two projects. Prior to her doctoral studies, Dr. Chattaraj has worked with the United Nations Population Fund, the World Bank and a community organization in New Delhi, where she grew up.

Yifei Yan is a recent graduate (with distinction) of Erasmus Mundus European Master in Law and Economics, specializing in law and economics of development at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR, Mumbai). She is currently planning to pursue a research degree in Development Studies, endeavoring to be especially familiar with the Chinese and Indian context, acquainted with situations in other developing nations, and knowledgeable about the Western experience. Her research interest includes political economy of development, especially roots and policy solutions to urban-rural disparity.

Vyjayanthi Rao is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and International Affairs, The New School, New York City. She works on cities after globalization and her specific interest lies in the intersections of urban planning, design, art, violence, and speculation in the articulation of the contemporary global city. She is the author of numerous articles on these topics and is currently working on a book manuscript titled *The Speculative City*.

Nidhi Srinivas is Associate Professor of Nonprofit Management at Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy, and an India-China Institute Fellow 2010-2012, at The New School. His research interests center on critical theory, in terms of the management of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and the transfer of management knowledge in postcolonial settings. His research has been published in leading journals such as *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, *Organizations and Critical perspectives on international business*. Professor Srinivas' book manuscript *Against Non-Governmental Organizations? A critical perspective on their management* is under preparation for Routledge Press.

FILM SCREENING

Revealed: Himalayan Meltdown

The New School: Theresa Lang Community and Student Center,
55 W. 13th Street, 2nd Floor

Wednesday, March 6, 6-8 PM

In the prelude to the Everyday Religion and Sustainable Environments in the Himalaya conference (March 7-8), the India China Institute invites you to join us for the screening of *Revealed: Himalayan Meltdown*, an award-winning documentary co-produced by the UN Development Programme, Discovery Asia, and Arrowhead Films. The film explores the impact of the glacial ice melt on communities in Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India and Nepal, and illustrates how the affected communities are adapting and preparing for the inevitable changes in the Himalayan glaciers.

Following the film screening, a discussion and Q&A session will be held with Cherie Hart, the Executive Producer and UNDP Regional Communications Advisor (Thailand), Anil Chitrakar, Chairperson of the Himalayan Climate Initiative, and Li Bo, ICI Fellow and environmental consultant.

Food and refreshments will be provided.



HIMALAYAN CONNECTIONS

Disciplines, Geographies, Trajectories

March 9-10, 2013

Sterling Memorial Library Lecture Hall • 120 High Street
and Henry R. Luce Hall • 34 Hillhouse Avenue
Yale University • New Haven, Connecticut



Ken Bauer • Kamal Bawa • Geoff Childs • Georgina Drew
David Germano • David Holmberg • Michael Hutt • Mahendra Lawoti
Todd Lewis • Rob Linrothe • Kathryn March • Saul Mullard
Charles Ramble • Geoffrey Samuel • William Sax • Kurtis Schaeffer
Tsering Shakya • Joëlle Smadja • Chris Vasantkumar • David Zurick
and members of the Yale faculty

Convened by Andrew Quintman & Sara Shneiderman

himalaya.conference@yale.edu

himalayanconnections2013.commons.yale.edu

Funded by the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund, the Council on East Asian Studies, and the South Asian Studies Council at Yale University; with additional support from the Department of Anthropology, Department of Religious Studies, the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and the Yale Himalaya Initiative. Organized in conjunction with the India China Institute, The New School.

Samuel Davis, Tassisudon [Tashicho Dzong], Bhutan: House Where Embassy Was Lodged, Covered Bridge, The Palace, 1783. Yale Center for British Art

ICI Faculty and Student Grants and Awards

Announcing “Economies and Societies” Initiative Funding Opportunities

- **Exploratory Faculty Research Grant**

ICI invites applications for both individual and collaborative faculty research grants (up to \$2,500 for individual grants and up to \$10,000 for joint projects) to support the development of research on the broad theme of “Economies and Societies.” Priority will be given to grants which are transdisciplinary in nature and which involve faculty from multiple disciplines. Proposed research must directly connect with the theme of “Economies and Societies” and involve either India or China, and preferably both.

- **Student Research Award**

ICI invites research proposals from graduate students on the broad theme of “Economies and Societies.” Several awards of \$1,500 will be given to selected research proposals. Proposed research must concern the theme of “Economies and Societies” and involve either India or China, and preferably both. Students are encouraged to build on their own prior fieldwork and research in these areas, while engaging with existing literature on the intersections of economies and societies in India and China, and proposing new theoretical and empirical approaches.

Announcing Student Research Opportunities

- **Summer Student Travel Research Grant**

Six \$3,000 grants are available for undergraduate or graduate students to support an independent field research project, or to defray the cost of attending a New School program in India or China. The field visit has to be taken by the end of Summer 2014. The funds could be used towards expenses such as airfare, local transportation, room and board, and interpreters.

Featured Upcoming Events 2013

“Jai Bhim Comrade: A Conversation and Film Screening with Anand Patwardhan, India’s leading documentary filmmaker.” A conversation and film screening with Anand Patwardhan, India’s leading documentary filmmaker. (March 13, 2013, 5:30-8:00 pm)

“The Cultural Foundations of Chinese Communism: Mining the Anyuan Revolutionary Tradition.” A lecture by Elizabeth Perry, Henry Rosovsky Professor of Government and Director of the Harvard-Yenching Institute. (April 15, 2013, 6:00-7:30 pm)

“Designing Urban Ecologies in China.” Symposium in Shanghai, China. (July 26, 2013)

“India China: Thinking, Doing, Relating.” Final India China Knowledge and Capacity Building Initiative conference at Delhi University, India. (August 16-17, 2013)

For more information about events and awards visit: www.indiachinainstitute.org

The India China Institute (ICI) is based at The New School, a university in the heart of New York City. It fosters study, research, and connections between India, China, and the United States—countries that increasingly share interests and challenges but have not yet been fully engaged in trilateral conversations. ICI is the hub of an international network of institutions and activities that nurtures these conversations and deepens our understanding of global processes.

ICI is committed to analyzing major issues and trends in India, China, and the United States and to helping leaders, managers, public opinion-setters, intellectuals, and academics in all three countries address key challenges through collaborative solutions. ICI will provide a vibrant platform for the circulation of people and ideas within The New School's overall mission to develop knowledge and skills necessary to promote social change.

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