ANNOUNCEMENTS

Symposia

Sixth Conference of the International Association of Tibetan Studies, Fagernes (Norway) 21 - 28 August 1992

The conference is to be hosted by the Institute for Comparative Research in Human Culture, Drammensveien 78, N-0271 Oslo 2, Norway. (Tel. 02-554207). Workshops have been planned on the following topics (conveners mentioned in brackets): 1. "The Tibetan Canon" (Dr. Helmut Eimer, Indologisches Seminar der Universität Bonn, Regina-Pacis-Weg 7, D-5300 Bonn 1, Germany); 2. "Sacred space, geography and pilgrimage" (Prof. Lawrence Epstein, Dept. of Anthropology, DH-05, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, U.S.A.); 3. Tibetology and social anthropology (Dr. Patrick Kaplanian, 4, Rue Neuve Popincourt, F-77011 Paris, France); 4. Buddhism and modernity in respect of Tibetans (Dr. M.P.S. Chandel, Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, Varanasi 221 007 U.P., India); 5. Old Tibetan (Dr. Helga Uebach, Kommission für Zentralasiatische Studien, Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Marstallplatz 8, D-8000 München 22, Germany); 6. Tibetan grammarians (Dr. P.C. Verhagen, Institut Kern, State University of Leiden, P.O.B. 9515, NL-2300 RA Leiden, Netherlands).

The conference will take place at Fagernes, situated in one of the most scenic regions of inland Norway, some 200 kilometers north of Oslo.

Second International Seminar on Tibetan Language, Siena and Arcidosso (Italy) 30 August - 4 September 1992

The seminar is convened jointly by Shang-Shung International Institute for Tibetan Studies, The University of Siena and IS.M.E.O of Rome. The aim of the seminar is to contribute to a variety of problems regarding the preservation, updating and diffusion of the Tibetan language (e.g. standardization, problems of translation and teaching).

Contact address: Istituto Shang-Shung, Istituto Internazionale di Studi Tibetani, Via degli Olmi, 1, 58031 Arcidosso, GR, Italy - Tel. 0564 - 966940, 966941; FAX 0564 - 966846.

SASON National Congress on Structure and Transition: Society, Poverty and Politics in Nepal, Kathmandu 4-6 September 1992

The Sociological/Anthropological Society of Nepal (SASON), which was founded in 1985 "with the twin objectives of promoting the disciplines of sociology and anthropology in order that they contribute towards the development of the country", has in August 1991 elected a new Executive Committee with Kailash N. Pyakurel as President and Bihari K. Shrestha as Vice-President.

The National Congress planned for 4-6 September will be the first in several years - and the first after the political changes in Nepal.

The theme of the congress - Structure and Transition: Society, Poverty and Politics in Nepal - encompasses a number of issues conventionally explored as elements/processes of Nepali society and culture. These include, among others, cultures and cultural manifestations; household and community; ethnicity, caste, class, language, religion and gender; regional, state and interstate processes, economy and polity; resource ownership, use and management; demography, government decentralization; national integration; development and underdevelopment; and correlates and dynamics of poverty and poverty alleviation policies and measures.

For details contact: SASON, P.O.B. 4771, Kathmandu, Nepal.

The Anthropology of Nepal - People, Problems and Processes, Kathmandu, Kathmandu 7-14 September 1992

Approximately 100 scholars from Nepal, India, Japan, Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand have so far registered for the conference, and of these about 62 plan to read papers. As in the case of the Zürich conference, such a large number of interested scholars will necessitate selective criteria in establishing a final programme. The following panels are at present planned: 1. The Anthropology of Resource Management, convened by Dr. Ram B. Chhetri (Central Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu) and Dr. Robert F. Fisher (Faculty of Agriculture and Rural Development, University of Western Sydney, Hawkesbury, Richmond NSW 2753, Australia).

In recent years the management of natural resources, especially forest resources, has become an important theme in the anthropology of Nepal. Anthropologists have contributed to resource management through studies of indigenous knowledge of forest resources and studies of resource use. More recently there has been an increased concern with the control and management of resource use, especially through local organisations. To this effect anthropologists have become involved in policy formation and in the design and implementation of projects concerned with resource management, especially in community forestry programmes.

This session is aimed at researchers and practitioners involved in anthropological and sociological aspects of resource management in Nepal. It should be of interest to non-anthropologists, especially sociologists and geographers, as well as anthropologists.

It is envisaged that the session will include papers on local systems of forest management, grazing land and livestock management as well as papers dealing with the implementation of resource management projects. So far eighteen papers have been received.

2. Women and Development, convened by Ms Indra Ban (c/o Sewa Samaj: NGO, Dilli Bazaar, P.O.Box 4749, Kathmandu, Nepal).

Ten papers have been promised for this panel. Contributors are invited to consider both the part played by women in development projects in Nepal and the various ways in which such projects impinge on the social lives of women. Issues examined will include the gender implications of rural development projects, the impact of industrialization...
on the social position of urban women, women and changing health practices, the media and gender stereotypes, etc.

3. Medical Anthropology, convened by Dr. Peter Webster (Anthropological Department, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand).

Medical Anthropology has become large in recent research in Nepal with scholars, both local and overseas, examining such topics as indigenous systems of diagnosis and healing, the social consequences of the introduction of western medical practices, the relationship between religious belief and bodily health, etc. Contributors to this session, of whom seven have promised papers, will pay particular attention to the politics of competitive health practices in both rural and urban contexts.

4. Urbanism in Nepal, convened by Dr. Alex Kondos (Departments of Sociology, University of NSW, Kensington NSW, Australia) and Mr. Ananda Shrestha, (Centre for Nepale Studies, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu).

Urbanism is a rapidly increasing feature of Nepalese social life. In this session contributors will examine some of the key features of both its traditional and new forms. The emphasis throughout will be on a distinctively anthropological contribution to the understanding of problems of urban living, that is to say, an understanding based primarily on prolonged fieldwork in small face-to-face communities. While some papers may be essentially of a descriptive nature. It is envisaged that most of them will also deal with a range of empirical and theoretical issues centering on Nepalese urban life: communitarian, urban semiotics, urban conflicts, urban lifestyles, industrialization and poverty. So far five papers have been received.

5. The State and the People, convened by Dr. Vivienne Kondos, (Department of Anthropology, The University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia).

The panel will address theoretical and empirical questions dealing with state-subject relations. These may cover issues like: nationalism, ethnicity, bureaucratic processes, the democratic movement and changes impelled by the revolution of 1990. So far four papers have been promised.

A registration fee of $AUS 70 is to be paid by all established scholars from Europe, USA, Japan, Australia, New Zealand etc. Cheques should be made payable in Australian currency to Anthropology of Nepal Conference and should be sent without delay to Professor Michael Allen, Department of Anthropology, The University of Sydney, N S W 2006, Australia.


The Linguistic Society of Nepal (LSN) elected a new executive committee on April 28, 1992. A week later, the outgoing president Abhi Subedi handed over the keys to his successor Nirmal M. Tuladhar. The present executive committee consists of Jai Raj Avasthi (vice president), Chandra Prakash Sharma (secretary-treasurer), Manfred Treu (joint secretary), K.B. Maharjana (joint secretary), Pramila Rai (Member), R. Lakshmi Shrestha (member), Sajag Rana (member), Hriseksh Udupadya (chief editor), Madhav P. Pokharel (editor), Renu Lama (editor), Vijaya Rauniar (editor), and Simon Gautam (editor).

In its first meeting the committee decided to hold its 13th Annual Conference on November 26-27, 1992, at Kirtipur Campus, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. The Society invites papers in the following areas: Tibetan-Burman and Indo-Aryan languages; Syntax and Semantics; Phonetics and Phonology; Sociolinguistics and Psychology; Historical and Comparative Linguistics; orthography and lexicography; applied Linguistics; Linguistics and Literature.

Paper abstracts of about 200 words should reach the Society by October 31, 1992. The Society regrets for not being in a position to provide any funds for travel, board and lodging. It will, however, be helpful in arranging lodging. The Society welcomes your participation.


All correspondence should be addressed to: Chandra Prakash Sharma, Campus of International Languages, Pradarsani Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Exhibitions

Culture and Everyday Life in Tibet, Hannover 23 May - 8 August 1992

A special exhibition drawn from the Tibetan collection of the Department of Anthropology in the Niedersachsisches Landesmuseum Hannover is being held between 23 May and 8th August. This is the first time the Department of Anthropology can present the Tibet Collection to the public. Most of the objects on display were acquired during three research expeditions: the expedition of the Schlaggenweit Brothers to India and the Himalayas 1854-1857, the first Brooke-Dolan Expedition to western China and eastern Tibet 1931-32, and the journey of Ernst Schafer to India 1964. The various groups of objects have been arranged thematically in order to provide an introduction to everyday life, monastic life and nomadic life as well to Tibetan history, the natural environment and living conditions.

The contemporary political, economic and cultural situation of Tibet is also shown; and the attempts of Tibetans, living in exile in India, to maintain their ethnic and cultural identity are documented photographically in an accompanying photo exhibition on display in the Forum Gallery, entitled: "Tibetan Culture on Foreign Ground".

The exhibition is based on the travels in Spring 1990 of the photographer Manuel Bauer and the writer Hans Reutimann in India and their report on the efforts of Tibetan exiles to maintain and develop their tradition. Thirty-eight prints illustrate such topics as monastic life, the Dalai Lama, Shiwala, Kanjur, book printing and handicrafts.

The following lectures (in German) have been arranged in collaboration with the Ethnologische Gesellschaft Hannover e.V., on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the lecture theatre of the Niedersachsisches Landesmuseum, Am Maschpark 5, 3000 Hannover 1. Admission is free.
Organizations

Aims and Objectives of ASH
ASH is a non-profit earning association devoted to studies on the Himalayas. It aims are as follow:

To publish original research material for international circulation.
To assist researchers engaged in Himalayan studies by: a) exchange of information, b) supply of information and research material, c) providing field assistance: research assistants, interpreters, lodging, etc., d) short term language courses.
To undertake a planning and action research programme for cultural and socio-economic resources management of the Himalayas.
To promote international understanding in making the Himalayas a tension-free natural habitat of peace-loving world citizens.

Membership is an annual and open to both individuals and institutions. Individual membership entities one to a 50% discount on all ASH publications in addition to a free copy of the Himalaya: Past and Present.

For details and inquiries write to Maheshwar P. Joshi, Sri Mallika Kunja, Malli Joshi Kola, Almora, U.P. Himalaya 263601, India; (for Nepal) Jayaraj Pant, Dept. of Nepalese Language, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal; and (for Japan, China and Australia) Haruko Tsuchiya, Faculty of Comparative Culture, Sophia University, 4, Tonbancho, Chiyoda-Ku, TOKYO - 102, Japan.