

PILGRIMAGE IN TIBET, Leiden, 12-13 September 1996

Conference report by Katia Buffetrille

A Seminar on Pilgrimage in Tibet was convened by Dr Alex McKay at the International Institute for Asian Studies in Leiden, The Netherlands, September 12th and 13th 1996.

Reflecting interest in the subject over the past few years, this meeting gathered 12 scholars from several countries, belonging to various disciplines. The papers were dedicated to a variety of aspects of pilgrimage as their titles indicate:

Dr Wim van Spengen (University of Amsterdam): "Material Conditions of Tibetan Pilgrimage".

Dr Per Kvaerne (University of Oslo): "An Early Twentieth-Century Tibetan Pilgrim in India".

Dr John Clarke (Victoria and Albert Museum, London): "The Gosains, Hindu Trading Pilgrims in Tibet".

Dr Brigitte Steinmann (University of Montpellier): "The Opening of the sBas yul 'Bras mo'i gshongs According to the Chronicle of the Rulers of Sikkim: Pilgrimage as a Metaphorical Model of the Submission of Foreign Populations (Lepchas) by the Sa skya pa Conquerors".

Dr Elisabeth Stutchbury (Australian National University): "Pumo Kuluta; the Story of a Contested Site".

Dr Katia Buffetrille (E.P.H.E. Paris): "Some Reflections on Pilgrimages to Sacred Mountains, Lakes and Caves".

Dr Andrea Loseries-Leick (University of Graz): "On the Sacredness of Mount Kailasa in the Indian and Tibetan Sources".

Dr Hanna Havnevik (University of Oslo): "The Pilgrimage of Jetsun Lochen Rinpoche (1865-1951)".

Dr W.M. Callewaert (K. University of Leuven): "May 1996: To Kailash via the Northern Route and Saparam".

Peng Wenbin (South West Nationalities College, Chengdu): "Tibetan Pilgrimage in the Process of Social Changes: The Case of Kiuzhaigou in Northwest Sichuan Province, PRC".

Dr Alex McKay (I.I.A.S. Leiden): "Asceticism, Power and Pilgrimage: Kailas-Manasarovar in "Classical" and Colonial Indian Sources".

Toni Huber (University of Virginia): "Modernity, Revival and Decline in Tibetan Mountain Pilgrimages: The Case of Northern Bird Cemetery (Byang bya dur) and Eastern Conch Mountain (Shar dung ri) in A mdo Shar khog".

