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John Whelpton studied classics at the University of Oxford and then lectured in English at Shri Thakur Ram (Birganj) and Amrit Science (Kathmandu) campuses of Tribhuvan University from 1972 to 1974. After taking a doctorate at SOAS, London, where he was an editor of *South Asia Research* and occasional teacher of Nepali, he moved to Hong Kong, from where he makes regular visits to Kathmandu. His main publications are *Jang Bahadur in Europe* (1983), *Nepal* (World Bibliographical Series, 1990), *Kings, Soldiers and Priests: Nepalese Politics and the Rise of Jang Bahadur Rana, 1830-57* (1991), (ed. with D.N. Gellner and J. Pfaff-Czarnecka) *Nationalism and Ethnicity in a Hindu Kingdom* (1997), and (ed. with Martin Hoftun and William Raaper) *People, Politics and Ideology: Democracy and Social Change in Nepal* (1999).


Michael Mühlöch studied ethnology in Berlin, presenting his MA in 1990 on the ‘Social structure of the Brahman-Chetris in Nepal’. He went on to conduct research on the culture of the Sherpas and in 1994 received his doctorate at the University of Freiburg, published in 1996 as *Traditionelle Opposition: Individualität und Weltbild der Sherpa*. He has taught at the universities of Berlin and Leipzig. With support from the German Research Council (DFG), he has since 1997 conducted research on credit systems and urban development in Nepal. He has published articles on the Sherpas, the Manangis, the Newars, and the Brahmans and Chetris.

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