

Notes on Contributors

Eberhard Berg is an anthropologist (PhD from Zürich University), presently affiliated with the Lumbini International Research Institute (Nepal). He is carrying out field research for a project titled "A living Buddhist tradition and its encounter with modernity - On the local performance of the Dumji festival, its key text, and the institution of patronage in the contemporary era of profound change."

Lok Bhattarai holds degrees in anthropology and archaeology from Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. He was a researcher on the project "Livelihoods and Environmental Change in the hills of Nepal". He has written two books in Nepali on the Gorkha Durbar and Manakamana temple complexes.

Tone Bleie (PhD) is an anthropologist and Research Director at the Chr. Michelsen Institute in Bergen, Norway. She has worked for several years on stratified social formations in Bangladesh, India and Nepal and co-headed the research project "Livelihoods and Environmental Change in the Hills of Nepal" between 1998-2001.

Morgan Edwards is finishing her Master of Arts in Anthropology at George Washington University. Her thesis is titled "Sustainability and Cultural Tourism in Rural Nepal". She will return to the field in summer 2003 to continue her research on development issues in the ACAP region of Nepal.

Steven Folmar is Lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at Wake Forest University. He began field research in Nepal in 1979 on demographic processes among the castes of Nepal. He is currently interested in how development programs affect the lives of Dalits and he will continue that line of research in the summer of 2003.

Sharon Hepburn is currently in Nepal researching how people represent, perceive, and experience fear and risk during the People's War. Her previous work in Nepal concerns tourism, vision, and identity. She teaches cultural anthropology (of vision, religion, and death) at Trent University in Canada.

Marianna Kropf is a PhD student in Classical Indology and Anthropology at the South Asia Institute of Heidelberg University, Germany. She has been in Nepal since 2000 as the manager of the South Asia Institute's Kathmandu office. She also conducted research on various topics related to local ritual traditions. Currently she is concentrating on her PhD thesis focussing on a group of planetary deities (Navagraha – 'nine seizing ones') and their rituals in the local traditions of the Kathmandu Valley.