

EDITORIAL

Welcome to EBHR No. 42. The articles contained herein all focus on aspects of political and social change in modern Nepal. I believe that each represents an unusually valuable contribution to the growing literature on this topic, not least because they challenge a number of conventional assumptions and preconceptions

James Sharrock offers us a penetrating critique of international development constructions of and perspectives on Nepal's political culture. I hope this piece will be widely read in the relevant quarters, and indeed that it will provoke further debate on this sensitive and important issue, perhaps in the pages of a future issue of EBHR.

Celayne Heaton-Shrestha and Ramesh Adhikari provide us with a nuanced and clear-eyed account of the Citizens' Movement for Democracy and Peace that played such a vital role in the struggle to establish a new order in Nepal. In the process of doing so they raise and address a number of important questions about the meaning and role of 'civil society' in that country.

Amanda Snellinger and Ina Zharkevich both focus on Nepali youth. Snellinger's comprehensive and discursive guide to the relatively new field of youth studies in Nepal is a useful companion piece to the special issue of *Studies in Nepali History and Society* published in September 2012 and I believe it will be widely welcomed. Zharkevich's account of reading practices among young Maoist cadres during the recent conflict in Nepal sheds valuable new light on an under-researched aspect of the insurgency and adds yet another strand to the analysis of its root causes.

Many thanks to all involved in bringing this issue into print: authors, reviewers, copy-editors, and Rita Bhujel and her colleagues at the Social Science Baha.

Please note that all past issues of the EBHR up to and including No. 40 are now online at: www.digitalhimalaya.com/collections/journals/ebhr. Each and every article published in this journal since it was founded in 1991 can now be downloaded as a separate pdf. My thanks to the Digital Himalaya team in New Haven and Dhobighat Dhara for achieving this for us. *Dhanyavaad and badhai!*

– Michael Hutt

