



HIMALAYA, the Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies

Volume 4
Number 1 *Himalayan Research Bulletin, Winter
1984*

Article 8

Winter 1984

Dissertation Abstracts

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/himalaya>

Recommended Citation

. 1984. Dissertation Abstracts. *HIMALAYA* 4(1).

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/himalaya/vol4/iss1/8>

This Dissertation Abstract is brought to you for free and open access by the DigitalCommons@Macalester College at DigitalCommons@Macalester College. It has been accepted for inclusion in HIMALAYA, the Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Macalester College. For more information, please contact scholarpub@macalester.edu.



VI. DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS

*Courtesy of Frank Joseph Shulman, Compiler and Editor
Dissertation Abstracts International (DAI)

+Submitted by author

Unless otherwise indicated, order numbers refer to and copies are available from:

University Microfilms
300 North Zeeb
Ann Arbor, MI 48106 USA
(WATS telephone number: 1-800-521-0600)

NOTE: We are aware that some universities do not submit dissertation abstracts to DAI. If your dissertation is not listed by DAI, or if you know of one that is not, please send us the necessary information so that our listings can be more complete.

Gyatso, Janet

--Ph.D.

--University of California, Berkeley, 1981, 296pp.

Title: "A Literary Transmission of the Traditions of Thang-Stong Rgyal-Po:
A Study of Visionary Buddhism in Tibet

DAI Order No. DA8211946

Thang-stong rGyal-po (1361-1485) is known in the West primarily for erecting iron-chain suspension bridges. The Tibetan historians emphasize his role as religious teacher. The literature preserved by his ICags-zam sect is found in various sectarian collections.

Thang-stong lived during the Phag-mo Gru-pa era. His lifestyle was that of the eccentric yogin who rejected societal mores. He studied several Buddhist traditions. During his early years he experienced numerous visions. In his later years he was involved in engineering projects. We also learn of his interaction with political leaders. He travelled to China, India, and Bhutan, and is believed to have sojourned in Uddiyana and Zangs-mdog dPal-ri. It is demonstrated that he lived for 124 years.

As alternatives to the traditional teacher-to-disciple transmission (bka'-ma), Tibetan visionaries such as Thang-stong discovered hidden Treasure texts (gter-ma) and received sermons in revelatory trances (dag-snang). Indic precedents are found in some Mahayana scriptures, and in the spontaneous theophanies of the early centuries A.D. Visionary practises also trace to the early religions of Tibet. In its Buddhist contexts, the vision served as an authentication of innovative doctrine.

The primary core texts which recorded revelations were modelled on the sutras and tantras. The Treasure Book and Vajrapada are examples of a "visionary document" literary genre. Due to their divine attribution, visionary documents were often anonymous. Exegetical and ritual texts were usually appended by later writers.

Thang-stong's 'Gro-don mkha'-khyab-ma sadhana on Avalokitesvara is a simplified version of the older dMar-khrids. The 'Chi-med dpal-ster, based on his visions of Padmasambhava, is a "life-extending" meditation. The gSang-spyod sNyan-brgyud on gCod is traced to his vision of Ma-gcig Labs-sgron. Thang-stong's writings on the teachings of Niguma connect him to the Shangs-pas. The sPrin-gseb-ma on Panjara Mahakala, a Vajradhara guruyoga, and a Simhamukha meditation are also ascribed to him. His philosophical treatise concerning the "three doors to deliverance" may be extant.

The Grub-thob thugs-tig, revealed to 'Jam-dbyangs mKhyen-brtse dBang-po, connects the thought of Thang-stong to rDzogs-chen and the Mayajalatantra.

Thang-stong's contribution to Tibetan religion may be summarized as an attempt to simplify and popularize Vajrayana Buddhism. His concern for public accessibility is also illustrated by his unique involvement in engineering and building.

Pyakuryal, Kailash

—Ph.D.

—Michigan State University, 1982. 236pp.

Title: Ethnicity and Rural Development: A Sociological Study of Four Tharu Villages in Chitwan, Nepal

Order No. DA8303837

The objectives of this study were: (1) to investigate the effects of different contextual situations in rural Nepal on ethnicity, and (2) the relationships between ethnicity and various structural variables relevant to the processes of rural development. It focusses on the Tharu people, an ethnic group indigenous to the Tarai region of south central Nepal.

Two matching pairs of Tharu communities were surveyed; one pair in a more centrally-located area (consisting of a predominantly Tharu village and an ethnically diverse village where Tharus are in numerical minority) and a similar matching pair in a more remote area. Data were obtained through a general census of all 260 households in the four villages, and direct interviews of a sample of 100 Tharu household heads (25 from each village) plus 25 non-Tharus from the nearby, diverse village. Supplementary information was obtained from informants, documents, and through observation (i.e., living in the villages while interviewing).

Ethnicity is viewed as both a structural variable (composition of the village) and a behavioral variable (manifestations of ethnic identity and loyalty). The latter is measured by a seven-point Guttman-Scale.

The locational factor (relative centrality or remoteness of village) emerged as a more important explanation of ethnic behavior than the ethnic composition of the village per se. No relationship is found between ethnicity and adoption of improved farm practices; it appears that ethnicity and adoption, with regard to these Tharu communities, are independent phenomenon.

It is concluded that ethnicity, contrary to what is often argued, does not stand in the way of rural development nor does it hinder social integration. Indeed, through the maintenance of group solidarity, the motivation of underprivileged minority groups such as the Tharus of Nepal are strengthened and they are better able to participate in the process of nation-building.

Shrestha, Shashi Maya

—Ph.D.

—Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1982. 192pp.

Title: Perceptions of Educational Leaders of the Kathmandu Valley Concerning the Administrative Skills and Knowledge Needed by Secondary School Headmasters of Nepal

Order No. DA8221961

The study concentrated on the Kathmandu Valley of Nepal. A brief description of the Valley and the educational development of Nepal was provided.

The modern development of education in Nepal started in 1951. Since then, various measures and numerous steps were taken to improve and to expand educational programs in Nepal. During the last three decades, growth in the number of schools throughout Nepal were noted. In this context, school administrators have a major role in providing educational leadership. A number of constraints, such as untrained teachers and administrators, limited resources and facilities, created numerous problems which have impacted on education.

Faced with such problems, the perceptions of educational leaders concerning the administrative skills and knowledge needed by the school administrators of Nepal were studied.

The primary purpose of the study was to determine the perceptions of the educational leaders concerning the administrative skills and knowledge needed for the position of headmaster in Nepal.

The main instrument of this study was a questionnaire with 70 items which was prepared at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and printed and distributed to 125 educational leaders of the Kathmandu Valley. An overall 76% of responses were returned. Likert scale responses were used and all responses' means were computed. As background information for this study, a review of related literature was undertaken.

Over 75 percent of all the respondents indicated agreement or strong agreement that headmasters should have administrative skills and knowledge in such areas as curriculum and instruction, personnel management, parent and community involvement, facility and financial management, the role of central examinations. However, differences were noted. About one-third of the respondents opposed the idea that physical punishment should be used to discipline students. Another area of difference focused on the use of central examinations. Less than 50 percent of the educational leaders agreed that the central examination system should be continued as it exists.

A number of recommendations were developed, including the need for staff development programming, the need for innovative development, the need for community involvement in education, the need for reexamination of the role and responsibilities of headmasters.

Shrestha, Nanda Raj

--Ph.D.

--Indiana University, 1981. 246pp.

Title: The Process of Rural-To-Rural Migration in the Agrarian Economy of Nepal

Order No. DA8300808

This study takes issue with the existing models of migration and argues that these models are conceptually deficient and thus cannot fully explain migration as a process. This study views migration as a distinctive socioeconomic-demographic process that is related to the underlying institutional (i.e. superstructural) forces either internally existing and externally reinforced or externally injected and later internalized to the local economic system.

This study develops a socioeconomic theory of migration in which the process of migration is related to the institutional arrangements of the economy which constitute the social relations of production and the modes of development corresponding to these relations. These forces together create and sustain certain objective conditions of class-related as well as spatial economic viabilities (and disparities) thus producing and manipulating people's subjective behavioral responses to these objective conditions. Migration is a specific manifestation of these subjective responses that is induced, conditioned, and later sustained over time.

The study conducts a sociohistorical analysis of the process of rural-to-rural migration in the agrarian economy of Nepal. The first phase of the analysis investigates the historical roots of the migration process, while the second phase analyzes three basic questions concerning the contemporary process: (1) Who migrates? This deals with migrants' class background. (2) Why does migration occur? This deals with the causal mechanisms underlying the process of migration. (3) What roles and positions do migrants occupy in the relations of production in their destination communities?

The empirical findings support the theoretical tenets of the study in that the process of migration, once produced, is conditioned and sustained over time and space, although the contemporary process is increasingly characterized by permanent migration from the hills to the Tarai of Nepal. Furthermore, migrants from the dominant class continue to occupy dominant positions, whereas migrants from the subordinate class are relegated to subordinate roles and positions in the relations of production in their destination communities.

Shrestha, Bishnu Bahadur

--Ph.D.

--University of Minnesota, 1982. 272pp.

Title: The Prehistoric Archaeology of Nepal with Special Reference to the Beginning of Agriculture

Order No. DA8302013

The main concern of this thesis is to present a synthesis of Nepalese prehistoric archaeology while analyzing modes of adaptation and Neolithic or early food production settlement patterns and to examine some of the important South Asian research problems.

The Nepalese Palaeolithic cultures demonstrate relationships with both the Soan (chopper/chopping industry) and Madrasian (handaxe/cleaver industry) cultures of the subcontinent and these two culture complexes are two variants developing from one culture called Mahadevian by Khatri (1963b:186-97). The evolution of the industries is, therefore, internal.

The presence of the unifacial pebble chopper in the Danav Tal site indicates a continuity of that tradition from the Soan area of Pakistan across the Himalayan foothill zone to the Anyathian culture of Burma. On the other hand, the Palaeolithic assemblage of the Danda site belongs to the main stream of the Madrasian complex and is located in much more humid area than the Danav Tal site area, supporting the hypothesis of differing adaptive modes, like Madrasian complex adapted to subhumid and open forested or grassland areas, whereas Soan complex adapted to semi-arid conditions.

The Nepalese Neolithic tool assemblage is found to have been inspired by the similar assemblages of northeast India, Southeast Asia and China, extending as far west as the Dang valley where one northwest Indian (Burzahom) Neolithic implement is found.

The locations of the Neolithic sites indicate the persistence of earlier settlement patterns in rural Nepal, including the Kathmandu valley.

Nepal has a complex and varied late prehistory with north Chinese and Southwest, Southeast and South Asian domesticates, perhaps combining with local domesticates, in the varied ecological settings. The archaeological data-Neolithic site locations and the stone tool typology--indicate the primacy of a Southeast Asian swidden complex with root and fruit crops, legumes, and probably the pig and chicken, followed by the domestication of rice and other cereal grains.

At the end, emphasis is given on serious archaeological explorations followed by excavations at potential cave sites of upland Nepal, which may turn to be the "Spirit Cave" of Nepal.

Pearl, Mary Corliss

--Ph.D.

--Yale University, 1982. 216pp.

Title: Networks of Social Relations Among Himalayan Rhesus Monkeys (*Macaca Mulatta*)

Order No. DA8310514

A focal group of rhesus monkeys (*Macaca mulatta villosa* True, 1894) was the subject of an 18-month field investigation of social behavior in the Himalayan foothills of northern Pakistan. Data were collected to provide a general description of the group and its members, including rates of maturation, patterns of maternal relatedness and dominance, and a history of the births, deaths and migrations over the course of the study. Daily and seasonal activity patterns were compared among age/sex classes of animals and between the focal group and other primate groups. Also analyzed were the effects of age, sex, dominance status and maternal relatedness on patterns of spatial aggregation and affiliative and agonistic interactions. To provide a holistic view of social structure, patterns of five different kinds of dyadic interaction (grooming, threats, play, mating, and submissive gestures) and a pattern of spatial aggregation (nearest neighbor status) were brought

together into a network analysis. Multidimensional scaling and blockmodelling, a type of clustering algorithm, produced subsets of animals grouped by similar overall interaction patterns. The interrelations of members of each subgroup were described for different types of social tie for a clearer understanding of the function of roles in the social structure. The relationship of these role networks was described both quantitatively and qualitatively; among other findings, blockmodelling revealed a possible integrative role in the group for offspring of the highest ranking female. Results also led to a discussion of grooming and play as functional counterparts of the social network for adults and juveniles, respectively.

Finally, blockmodelling techniques were used to monitor changes in various levels of social structure over time in response to demographic shifts due to maturation, births, and immigration. The results of this exercise provided the basis for predictions of how patterns of roles in this rhesus group will respond to new demographic changes. It was argued that the lack of consideration of the variability of social structure produced by demographic fluctuations is a major flaw in many reductionist tests of evolutionary theory in current primatology.

Melnick, Don Jay

—Ph.D.

—Yale University, 1981. 297pp.

Title: Microevolution in a Population of Himalayan Rhesus Monkeys (*Macaca Mulatta*)

Order No. DA8210396

A population of 291 rhesus monkeys (*Macaca mulatta*), in the Himalayan foothills of northern Pakistan, was defined and observed during an 18 month period of field work. Data were collected on births, deaths, patterns of mating and migration and group fission. Two hundred monkeys from this population were trapped, marked, bled, weighted, measured and had their upper dentition cast.

Using standard starch gel techniques all individuals were typed for five serum proteins and enzymes and for ten red-cell enzymes. A relatively high degree of polymorphism (25%) was found. Significant levels of intersubpopulational differentiation, similar to those found in other non-human primate populations, were also uncovered.

Using a general demographic model, characteristics of population structure and life history processes were analyzed in light of their effects on genetic change over time. It was found that social subdivision in this primate population did not result in obstruction to gene flow and concomitant inbreeding. As found on Cayo Santiago, social group fission had profound effects on the spatial distribution of genotypes and the degree of genetic differentiation between social groups. The effects of migration, birth and death were difficult to analyze given the brevity of the initial study period.

Computer simulation models were developed and used to answer specific questions regarding the genetic consequences of social group fission and the demographic consequences of fluctuating vital rates. In the Pakistan population it was found that the genetic consequences of social group fission are not different from the expectations of a random division. The demographic simulation demonstrated that fluctuations in vital rates lead to non-stationary age distributions.

Some results of analyses presented here are at odds with conclusions reached by those working on other primate and non-primate social mammalian populations. Explanations for these contradictions have been related to previous errors in logic and a previous lack of empirical evidence.

Upreti, Tulsi Prasad

—Ph.D.

—University of California, Berkeley, 1981. 258pp.

Title: Rural Settlements and Policy Processes: A Comparative Study of Government Planned and Spontaneous Settlements in Nepal

Order No. DA8212134

This comparative and evaluative case study of settlement schemes in the Nepal Tarai investigates the role of government intervention in new land settlements and the eventual success and failure of settlement programs carried out by the government. Government intervention is defined as the expansion of the centralized bureaucracy and the institutionalized control over local settlement processes. As a result of various government policies and programs, the role of the local participants in the spontaneous settlement system is undermined or eliminated. The previously existing avenues for spontaneous settlement have become illegal because they occur outside of the bureaucratic channels created through the Resettlement Department and the official projects of the Nepal Resettlement Company.

The Government control and elimination of local systems could be more readily justified if the government settlement program had achieved its stated goals, and if the economic condition of government sponsored settlers compares favorably with the spontaneous settlers. Otherwise, the centralized control and the bureaucratic administration over land settlement issues is going to be questionable. If the government cannot control and manage the settlement of land-seeking migrants and the government's specific project--the Resettlement Company--cannot achieve its objectives, the wisdom of a centralized settlement policy is hard to accept. Apart from the lack of adequate financial resources, as well as of trained and motivated personnel to carry out the programs, the poor results of the government's efforts to solve the rural land development and settlement problems arise from ignoring the local ongoing systems, and by seeking to replace them without considering the complex processes inherent in the spontaneous settlement.

Centrally imposed settlement policies have ignored or have not considered carefully the economic factors which are necessary for a successful agricultural resettlement program and the subsequent development of these communities. As a result, the government resettlement program is less likely to achieve its stated economic goals.

Ojha, Durga Prashad

--Ph.D.

--Cornell University, 1982. 364pp.

Title: Planned and Spontaneous Land Settlement in Nepal: A Study of Two Tarai Settlements in the Kanchanpur District

Order No. DA8210786

The Tarai (plains) region of Nepal has been subject to a heavy influx of population from the densely settled Hill region in recent decades. The government has implemented planned projects under the assumption that uncontrolled, spontaneous settlements are inferior socially, less efficient economically, and more destructive ecologically. This study evaluates the relative ability of the two types of settlement to provide subsistence to the landless and poor (the official target groups). Contrary to the usual understanding, spontaneous settlements are more efficient economically.

Two representative settlements in the Kanchanpur district were studied--the Parashan Resettlement Project (PRP) and the spontaneous area contiguous to it. Primary data were collected through household surveys in 1978-79. Four broad evaluation criteria were identified--technical and environmental, demographic, economic, and institutional. Simple statistical methods were used for quantitative analysis.

The PRP site was selected by political considerations, resulting in settlement in a relatively dry and erosion prone area compared to the agriculturally better and environmentally stable spontaneous settlement site. A higher proportion of target groups was found in the PRP but free food made direct government costs very high. Timber destruction by settlers was comparable in both settlements.

Spontaneous settlers established themselves more easily with fewer hardships and their agricultural practice was more efficient. With substantially lower land holdings, they had agricultural income similar to the planned settlers. Effective self-help institutions are absent in both settlements.

The study implies that smaller holdings (1.35 hectares) are sufficient for subsistence. Nonetheless, Tarai settlements cannot contribute much to relieve population pressure in the Hills. The government must control spontaneous settlements and change its planned settlement program by undertaking adequate surveys, selecting settlers from the poorest in Hill localities having critical environmental problem, discontinuing free food rations, and involving settlers in land clearance activities. Limited government capability and likely opposition may make such policies ineffective, even if accepted in principle.

Ossorio, Janet Rae W.

—Ph.D.

—University of Colorado at Boulder, 1982. 189pp.

Title: Tsang Tibetan Phonology

Order No. DA8221111

This dissertation presents the phonology of a dialect from the Sakya kingdom, Tsang province, Tibet. Most Tibetan studies concentrate on the dialect of Lhasa, the Tibetan religious and political seat of power. However the Sakya kingdom was once the Tibetan power seat, a fact well known to the informant Geshe Lopon Thujhey Wangchuk. While Tsang dialects have been considered central dialects (nonconservative) and have been reported to be minimally different from Lhasa, the dialect examined showed numerous differences.

Concerning consonants, Tsang lacks the aspirated nasals found in Lhasa. Tsang has more palatalization than Lhasa. The velar stops and nasal of Lhasa are palatalized before front unrounded vowels in Tsang. The Tsang dialect includes a final *ʔ* and more occurrences of final consonants than Lhasa. Word final *n* occurs in verbs which are phonologically distinct from nouns in Tsang.

Lhasa has more vowel phonemes than Tsang. In Tsang *l*, *ɿ*, and *ʊ* are allophones of *i*, *e*, and *o* respectively and *U* does not occur. Nasal vowels are not phonemic, nasal allophones being limited to front rounded and unrounded vowels and restricted to falling tone. Schwa is considered phonemically distinct from *a* although the two may be merging. Vowel harmony is not a general process in Tsang, although *a* is frequently raised to schwa in polysyllables with high vowels. Vowel lowering due to *-a* suffixation does not occur. Umlauting by *-i* suffixation only occurs in polysyllables with back vowels.

Tsang has the high, low, and falling tones that Lhasa does, but the distribution of falling tone is different. Tsang verbs with voiced codas carry falling tone only. Tsang nouns usually carry level tone, although as in Lhasa, nouns deriving from Classical final (C)s usually carry falling tone. However the Tsang instrumental case is not marked by falling tone and is phonologically indistinguishable from the genitive.

This dissertation includes chapters providing the background for and surveys of Tibetan language studies.

+Madhav Prasad Sharma

—Ph.D., Education

—Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1983.

Title: The Impact of International Education upon United States University Students

This study identified the impact of international education upon United States students. Two main research questions were developed as follows: Does the involvement of the university in international education programs affect the international outlook of United States students? Does the on-campus population density of international students affect the international outlook of United States students? Twenty-four hypotheses were tested on a randomly selected group of 663 United States senior students enrolled at Indiana University, the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Ohio State University, the University of Illinois at Urbana, and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

The analysis of variance tests used indicated that United States students from institutions with high involvement with international education programs had a greater acceptance of international students; had a greater cosmopolitan outlook; were more world minded; had a better perception of the environment which facilitates social participation with international students; understood their own culture better; were more interested in overseas careers; scored higher on political liberalism; and were more supportive of international education. An institution's involvement in international education programs did not affect the social participation between United States and international students. United States students from institutions with a medium involvement with international programs indicated that they were more perceptive of the international students' non-academic problems; and they were more supportive of internationalism. United States students from institutions with a low involvement with international programs indicated they had a more pluralistic outlook on culture; and they were more perceptive of the international students' academic problems. The density of international students on the campus did not affect United States students' acceptance of international students; social participation with international students; cosmopolitan world outlook, world mindedness; perceptions of international students' academic problems; perceptions about the environment which facilitate social participation with international students; support for internationalism; international career aspirations; or political liberalism. U.S. students at institutions with a medium density of international students indicated a more pluralistic outlook on culture. U.S. students at institutions with a low density of international students indicated a more pluralistic outlook on culture; more awareness of the nonacademic problems of international students; and a better understanding of their own culture.

It was concluded from the findings that the assertion of the literature that the character of United States campus life, especially that of United States students, will change dramatically as international students are introduced and come to represent a significant segment of the student body, will not be supported without a strong program commitment to international education.

It was recommended that the recruitment of international students by institutions without a serious commitment to the ideals of international education should be strongly discouraged by all agencies which support international education programs.

+Girija Elaine Brilliant

—University of Michigan, 1983

Title: Determinants of Cataract Surgery Utilization in Nepal

Cataract is the single largest cause of blindness in the world today, yet even when cataract surgery is available, it is often underutilized due to lack of awareness of the procedure or misperceptions about it, or to the presence of social or financial barriers.

As part of a nationwide survey of blindness in Nepal, interviews were conducted with 254 cataract patients from 95 rural sample sites across the country. Of these, 95 had been operated for cataract, and the remainder were unoperated but were judged able to benefit from surgery.

The present study had three purposes: to describe current beliefs and practices about cataract in this population; to identify correlates of awareness of cataract surgery among those who could benefit from it; to identify factors which distinguish those who had been operated from those who were aware of the procedure but had not had their sight restored.

The results indicated that while cataract is the major cause of blindness in Nepal, awareness of cataract surgery is limited. Just over half of the unoperated cataract patients were aware of cataract surgery. Men were more likely to be aware of the procedure than women.

A variety of predictors showed a significant association with awareness of surgery, and many of these were sex-linked. Each maintained significance when the others were controlled for through the application of logistical regression. The correlates of awareness of cataract surgery included community resources, ownership of modern objects, and certain health beliefs. Fewer differences were found between those who had been operated for cataract (aphakic) and those who were aware of surgery but were still unoperated. Economic status, centrality in family structure, knowing another aphakic, and proximity to ophthalmic care were important correlates of surgical acceptance for women but not men. Men who were operated were more likely to be older and literate than men who were unoperated but aware of surgery. Social support was an important precondition of acceptance of cataract surgery.

The implications of the findings for health education and community ophthalmic programs are discussed. The findings indicate the joint role of community, family, and individual factors in enabling cataract blind to have their sight restored.

* * * * *

Previously-listed abstracts now available from DAI:

Justice, Judithanne. International Planning and Health: An Anthropological Case Study of Nepal (in HRB III.1).

DAI order no. DA8212168

Pradhan, Krishna Lal Bhai. The Structure of the Simple Clause in Nepali (in HRB III.2).

DAI order no. DA8218038

English, Richard. Gorkhali and Kiranti: Political Economy in the Eastern Hills of Nepal (in HRB II.1).

DAI order no. DA8310169

Belbase, Lekh Nath. Problems of Planning and Implementing Vocational Education in a Developing Country: A Case of Nepal (in HRB II.2).

DAI order no. DA8215800