From the Editor and Notes, Errata, and Announcements

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Portland State

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Changes are ahead for the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies, and you are holding one of them: this volume of HIMALAYA is being produced using a digital process rather than our familiar offset printing. We have been very happy in the offset work arranged for us by Portland-based print broker Bob Smith’s Bookprinter’s Network. He has managed to keep our printing costs extraordinarily low—just not low enough to insure the solvency of our member-supported non-profit. Digital printing is an experiment, so much so that while preparing this comment on our issue I still don’t know if the cover is in color, allowing us to show you Kishor Kayasta’s exquisite Newar girl dressed for her ihi in vibrant reds—and whether we’ll be sorry for dabbling in color, if we do.

A new source for printing precedes by a few months (and one more issue) a shift in editor and editorial home to Arjun Guneratne and Macalester College. We will have more to say about that in the last issue—XXVI: 1-2—from Portland State. We alert you now of the impending move to explain why we have decided to condense two annual issues into one for the volume numbers yet in arrears, XXV (2005) and XXVI (2006). To insure a fresh start in a new location, we have decided to run double issues—a solution we prefer to avoid when we can—which may save new editor Arjun Guneratne a problem I faced when I took on then-Himalayan Research Bulletin fourteen years ago. We were a year late, back in 1993, and though we managed to make it to within six months of being caught up, we never made up that deficit. And we’ve been losing further ground in the last few years, as this office has struggled to generate operating income for ANHS, through the Journey to High Asia calendar series—an extraordinarily time-consuming project—and other activities, while simultaneously producing HIMALAYA. Tolerant readers have had to listen to a long litany of excuses for overdue journals. The new editor gets to launch his first issue during the actual calendar year on its cover. We hope he will be able to keep up, not having to catch up, and that the richness of the contents of these double issues will justify our strategy.

This issue’s riches include the exploration of the past in two articles: John Whelpton’s A Reading Guide to Nepalese History and Mark Leichty’s Building the Road to Kathmandu: Notes on the history of tourism in Nepal. Philip Lutgendorf offers a contemporary, even racy topic with his Sex in the Snow: The Himalayas as erotic topos in popular Hindi Cinema. We report on research underway and recently completed, by Govinda Basnet, Jessica Birkenholts, Milan Shrestha, and Anna Marie Stirr—and request that others engaged in research in the Himalaya let us know, so that we can pass the word. Owing to the energy and persistence of Book Reviews editor Tom Robertson, this issue has a record number of reviews, including three on Mr. Whelpton’s A History of Nepal, allowing readers to triangulate on the work. Susan Hangan has compiled a list of publications new in 2005, and we reprint here Himalaya-themed abstracts from papers presented at the 2005 meetings of American anthropologists and geographers, and South Asian scholars appearing at Madison, Wisconsin.

The volume year, 2005, informs our choices for these matters, but, as it is already 2007, we include below an invitation to the 2007 South Asia Conference in Madison, where ANHS holds its annual members meeting, and at which we will sponsor a set of panels described below—among others.

I write this editorial note as lay-out artist/editorial angel Peggy Lindquist wrestles with the last chores of preparing HIMALAYA—while vacationing in Hawaii. This is the sort of dedication I have been very skillful at finding and exploiting, during my tenure as editor, and the thanks I offer to Peggy, as well as to the many others who have contributed to this issue, are a very small return on the very considerable and much-appreciated effort without which there would be no HIMALAYA.

Barbara Brower
Portland, Oregon July 2007
Among the ANHS-sponsored panels:

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN NEPAL I


Teri Allendorf: Village tiger rangers in Nepal

Ashok Raj Regmi: Governance regimes, rule enforcement, and forest conditions – A study of forest resources in Chitwan, Nepal.

Milan Shrestha: Community Forestry and the Changing Context of Smallholding in Lamjung District, Nepal

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN NEPAL II

Christopher Thoms: Shifting Community Forestry Policy and Tensions between Users, Government Bureaucracy, and International Donors in Nepal

Keshav Bhattara, Dennis Conway, and Mahmoud Yousef: Linking Community Forests, Land Use Dynamics, Equity, and Social Well-Being at Ecological and Administration Regions of Nepal by Using Remote Sensing and Geospatial Data

John Metz: Are biological and socio-economic goals of community forestry compatible? An enquiry into the goals of community management of natural resources

Barbara Brower: Implications of Global Warming for Himalayan Resources and Communities

Sienna Craig: Lost in Translation? Knowing, Naming, and Legitimating Amchi Medicine in Nepal

Mary Cameron: Modernizing Ayurvedic Medicine in Nepal: Regulation, Controversy and Healthcare Impact

Judith Justice: Re-examining the Fit Between Global Health Policies and Local Realities

IDENTITY POLITICS IN NEPAL

Steven Folmar: Scholarship and identity politics among dalits in Nepal

Savitree Thapa Gurung: Ethnic/caste and regional politics

Pancha N. Maharjan: “Nepa Mandala” as Newar Autonomy

2006 DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN NEPAL: METHOD, CONSEQUENCES, AND CHALLENGES

Discussant: Professor Subho Basu, Department of History, Syracuse University

Vishnu Bahadur Shah, Saubhagya Shah

Engaged ethnography: creating an uprising in a university town

Mahendra Lawoti

Democratization through non-democratic moves: the maoist insurgency, royal coup, and political reforms in Nepal

Mallika Shakya, Sujeev Shakya

In search of pragmatism within politics: capitalists and communism in Nepal

Homraj Dahal: Democratic challenges and peaceful transition from armed conflict: Nepalese experience.
PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT:
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ACROSS THE HIMALAYA

Teri D. Allendorf, Residents' Perceptions of Wildlife in Three Protected Areas in Nepal

Kenneth D. Croes, Conserving the King: Inverting the Origin Story of the Annapurna Conservation Area Project of Nepal

Ravindra K. Pande, Landslide of the Rishikesh-Badrinath National Highway at Devprayag, District Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand (India)

Michael A. Rechlin, A Passion for Pine: Forest Conservation Practices of the Apatani People of Arunachal Pradesh

Alex P. Thomson, The Annapurna Conservation Area Project: Tourists as Agents of Development and Environmental Management in the High Himalaya?

Tom Robertson, Population in Nepal

Karl Ryavec and Daniel Winkler, Forest Resources and Logging Impact in the Tibetan Areas of Southwest China: A Case study from Ganzi

Christopher Thoms, Some Thoughts on the Democratization of Community Forestry in Nepal

BOOKS REVIEWS, REJOINDERS:
Julie G. Marshall, Britain and Tibet 1765-1947: A Select Annotated Bibliography of British Relations with Tibet and the Himalayan States Including Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan, reviewed by Peter Hansen

Robert Barnett, Lhasa: Streets with Memories, reviewed by Kabir Mansingh Heimsath

Ronald M. Davidson, Tibetan Renaissance: Tantric Buddhism in the Rebirth of Tibetan Culture, reviewed by Chris Haskett

J. Mark Baker, The Kuls of Kangra: Community-Managed Irrigation in the Western Himalaya, reviewed by Milan Shrestha

Sarah LeVine and David N. Gellner. Rebuilding Buddhism: The Theravada Movement in Twentieth-Century Nepal, reviewed by Bruce Owens

Janet Gyatso and Hanna Havnevik, eds., Women in Tibet, reviewed by Sara Shneiderman

Sarah Harding (translator), Forward by Gangteng Rinpoche, The Life and Revelations of Pema Lingpa, reviewed by D. Phillip Stanley

RESEARCH REPORTS
CONFERENCE DIGEST

NOTICE: HAVE EXTRA BOOKS THAT ARE TOO GOOD TO THROW OUT?

ANHS is helping the Social Science Baha collect books for its library in Kathmandu. They need academic non-fiction books on any social science topic, but not textbooks. They can pay postage.

For more information, contact Mahendra Lawoti <mlawoti@hotmail.com>
ERRATA (HIMALAYA Volume 24 Numbers 1 and 2)

PHOTO CREDITS

Our apologies to Burk Jackson for failing to give him proper credit for his photographs, the seated reader of a Tibetan text, and the father-son pair at right.

EDITORIAL EXCESS

Wim van Spengen’s article, 
Ways of Understanding Tibetan Peoples and Landscapes, which appeared in our last issue, was solicited very late in the production process, and came to us within days of our final deadline. In our haste to trim the piece and adjust the rare unidiomatic expression a bit, we interjected an unfortunate and much regretted change in meaning in a passage about Tomi Huber’s opus, The Cult of Pure Crystal Mountain, in which we edited van Spengen’s “synthetical” as “artificial”: “...Huber’s work assumes a basically artificial character...” which resulted in an unintended change in meaning, which we regret—particularly in light of Wim’s helpfulness in preparing so comprehensive an essay on short notice, and then writing us a laudatory note of the sort that makes this job worth doing:

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Dear Barbara and Peggy,

I should like to express my appreciation for bringing out, against great odds, the wonderful Tibet issue of HIMALAYA. On my table are The Himalayan Research Bulletin, Vol. I, Number 1, Winter 1980 and the latest HIMALAYA issue. If you compare the two, I come to realize the long road the publication has travelled. From Bulletin to Journal: a remarkable achievement, certainly if you look at the form, contents and quality of the most recent issue. The layout with the border ornaments is simply fantastic, almost from another time. The photo materials are great and will surely have the desired effect of reaching the wider public you have in mind. I should like to congratulate you both and hope this work of love will continue in the coming years . . .

All best wishes,

Wim van Spengen
Netherlands