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Networking

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NETWORKING

Himalayanists: The Next Generation

Graduate Students at Work

The Himalayan Research Bulletin would like to provide a forum for networking among graduate students. As a starting point, University of Texas Folklorist Stephanie Brown compiled the following list of graduate students and their research. According to the compiler, "the students included in this section were selected on a completely random basis (they were available by telephone when I tried to contact them or had e-mail)." We would like to make this a regular feature of the bulletin, and invite students from all fields whose work has a Himalayan focus to add themselves to our catalogue:

Martijn Van Beek is a graduate student in Development Sociology at Cornell University. He wrote his master's thesis (also in Development Sociology, from the Free University in Amsterdam, Netherlands) on Tibetan refugee community in India. His current research involves "the impact of 'development' broadly defined on social identification in Ladakh, India." Van Beek is interested in the relationship in social identification between lived experience and official agencies and actors.

Also a graduate student at Cornell University, **Lazima Onta** is pursuing her doctorate in Social Anthropology. Her research involves street children in Kathmandu, Nepal. Onta is interested in the relationships between street children and various state and international institutions. She looks particularly at the institutional definitions of 'childhood' and at the ways street children negotiate the ideologies and practices of these institutions.

Shubhra Gururani is a doctoral student in Anthropology at Syracuse University. She has recently completed fieldwork in Kumaon Himalayas, U.P., India. Shubra writes that her research is "focused mainly on the politics of gender and identity in the environmental discourse". Her research also examines questions about women's perceptions and involvement with environmental change and the role that NGOs play in environmentalist discourses.

Brian Greenberg is a graduate student in Anthropology at the University of Chicago. He conducts his research in the Kangra District of Himachal Pradesh. Greenberg is interested in historical changes in agricultural practices in this region and the links between agricultural changes and other changes in the ecology and environment. This includes looking at the ways that changes in economy and population implicate changes in agriculture and landscape.

Calla Jacobson, a graduate student in Folklore at the University of Texas at Austin, continues research on expressive culture. She is interested in the interaction between aesthetic practices and social processes, and returns for Ph.D. work to the community in northeast Nepal that sparked her initial interest in the socio-political dimensions of folklore.

David Henderson is a graduate student in Ethnomusicology at the University of Texas at Austin. Henderson is conducting research with Newari musicians in Kathmandu, Nepal. His research addresses

issues of identity and ethnicity in the expressive practices of bhajan musicians. His work also addresses the relationship between bodily experience and aesthetics.

Keila Diehl is a graduate student in Folklore at the University of Texas at Austin. She is preparing to leave for India to conduct her field work with Tibetan refugee communities there. Diehl's research looks at notions of identity and community in these diasporic communities. Diehl is interested as well in the role of children as agents of culture and will be conducting some of this research in schools for refugee children.

Brien Sheedy, a graduate student in Geography at the University of Texas, will be comparing strategies for managing tourism and its impacts in three protected areas of Nepal: Makalu-Barun, Sagarmatha, and Annapurna. He will begin his work in the fall of 1994.

If you are a graduate student working in the Himalayan region, please contact the Bulletin. We would like to include information about you and your work, and give other students the opportunity to become familiar with the community of scholars working in the Himalaya .

**Plan to Attend the
23rd Annual Conference on South Asia
Madison, Wisconsin, November 4-6 1994**

Annual Meeting of the Nepal Studies Association:

5:30-6:30 Saturday, November 5 th