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## Editor's Introduction

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## editor's introduction

This issue's focus is on Nepal. **HRB's** Contributing Editor David Seddon serves as guest editor for a major segment: he has assembled a collection of papers about development, drawing most of this material from the personnel and programs of the School of Development Studies, University of East Anglia. Nepal's Anti Terrorist Act is Mary Des Chene's subject. She lays out the history and implications of a controversial piece of legislation that has aroused an international reaction as well as a hot fight at home.

In order to make space for these important pieces, we defer to the next issue (coming early summer, 1999) the full accounting of recent conferences in **HRB's** CONFERENCE DIGEST, but make way for Frank Shulman's compilation of international DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS and a few book reviews.

We break ground in this issue for another feature, the Nepal Studies Association's first bake sale (more or less). **HRB** operates on a shoestring, and in an effort to compensate for shrinking institutional support we are experimenting with promotional fund-raising projects, in this instance a set of postcards: blank-backed, black-and-white photographs of Everest-area landscapes. The in-house expertise and volunteer labor of Portland State geography student John Schwab make this possible, and we hope you will find a use for a set or two of these postcards--all proceeds to go to the production of **HRB**. We also seek contributions for possible future card sets.

Special thanks for this issue go to David Seddon and John Schwab, very special thanks to Amy Jo Woodruff who has taken the lion's share of the particularly nasty tasks of production.

Please note the CALL FOR PAPERS, including particularly the imminent deadline for the 28th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The Nepal Studies Association will hold its annual members meeting, and is sponsoring several panels; please contact Sam Sonntag or NSA president John Metz for further information.

We invite feedback, as always, on the articles presented here, and welcome your letters.

*Barbara Brower*