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## News

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## L. NEWS

### **\*Nepal Studies Association Meets in Madison, Wisconsin**

The Nepal Studies Association met in conjunction with the 10th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin, November 6-8, 1981. Primarily a business meeting, the President of the NSA, Ronald Bernier, welcomed those present and gave a financial report from the Treasurer, Melvyn Goldstein, who was unable to attend the meeting.

David Holmberg, co-editor of the HRB, reported that the plans for the HRB were proceeding, but more slowly than anticipated. He stressed that the quality of the HRB depends on the voluntary submission of news, research reports, abstracts, articles, reviews, publication notes, and other information. The editors have been trying to update and organize the membership lists and they asked the patience of those who are having trouble receiving the HRB. The HRB at this point is far from self-sufficient and it is only possible to publish it in its present format with the assistance, both monetary and secretarial, of the South Asia Program at Cornell University. Because Holmberg and March will be able to edit the HRB for only one more year, they reluctantly suggested that dues to the association be raised to get the HRB on a sound financial footing for the future editor. It was reluctantly agreed that the dues be raised (see inside cover for new rates). Members were encouraged to get colleagues to join and to make sure that their libraries are subscribers.

Ronald Bernier asked that special thanks be communicated to the South Asia Program at Cornell for their assistance in publishing the HRB.

The major item of discussion at the meeting was future plans for an academic conference on Himalayan studies under the partial sponsorship of the American-Nepal Education Foundation. Those members present discussed time, place, and format of the conference. No firm plans were made for a conference, however, since the meeting, two general conferences have been planned (see announcements below).

The Nepali community in Madison hosted an excellent bhoj of dal, bhat, tarkari and beer on Saturday evening which made the meeting memorable for all present.

### **\*Spring Meeting of Nepal Enthusiasts at Claremont, California**

An informal meeting to bring Nepalese and Americans together will be held this April in Claremont, California. Members of the Nepal Studies Association are invited to take part in the gathering and possibly to present papers on their current research. A panel on art and art history will be headed up by Deepak Shimkhada, Vice-President of the American-Nepal Society/California Chapter which is sponsoring the conference. For further information contact:

Merrill Goodall  
Claremont Graduate School  
Department of Government  
Claremont, CA 91711 USA

**\*Himalayan and Nepal Studies Panels at the 11th Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

The Nepal Studies Association will again hold an annual meeting at Madison in November, 1982. The conference there is a major one because of the competent sponsorship of the South Asian Area Center and of the participation of scholars from all over the country and abroad. This year the Nepal Studies Association would like to try and coordinate several panel proposals on Himalayan subjects. Members are asked to send panel subjects (complete with chairperson's name, participants' names, and paper topic(s) as soon as possible to:

Ronald Bernier  
Campus Box 318  
Fine Arts Department  
University of Colorado  
Boulder, CO 80309 USA

**\*International Meeting on Newar Studies and the Heritage of the Kathmandu Valley**

In June, 1983 a conference will be held in Kiel, West Germany on Newar studies. Plans are now in progress and information is available from:

Robert Levy  
Department of Anthropology C-001  
University of California at San Diego  
La Jolla, CA 92093 USA

or

Dr. Niels Gutschow  
69, 2 Hamburg 56  
West Germany

**\*Dardic Languages — A Research Query**

Drs. Omkar N. Koul and Ruth L. Schmidt have been conducting research on the relationship between Kashmiri and Shina. They would like to form a scholarly exchange network with other scholars interested in Dardic languages. If you are interested, contact either:

Dr. Omkar N. Koul  
Northern Regional Language Centre  
Punjabi University  
Patiala - 147002  
India

or

<u>Dr. Ruth L. Schmidt</u>	
Wadud Villa, House No. 38	c/o Hugh S. Plunkett
Road 5, Block G	Dacca (ID)
Gonani, Dacca	Department of State
Bangladesh	Washington, DC 20520 USA
(home address)	(from USA)

**\*Dr. Shigeru Iijima Fulbright Scholar at the University of Kentucky**

Dr. Shigeru Iijima, Professor of Social Anthropology at the Institute for the Study of Languages and Cultures in Asia and Africa, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, was awarded a Fulbright for 1981-82 to conduct research and to lecture in the United States. In addition to lectures at the University of Kentucky, he has given seminars and/or lectures at the University of Illinois, Bowling Green State University, and in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Iijima has had a long involvement with the study of the Himalayas and their peoples, and is now engaged in completing a report on the identity crisis of the Thakalis of Nepal based on field research in the upper Kaligandaki valley. He is also working with Dr. P. P. Karan of the Department of Geography at the University of Kentucky on a book on "Man, Environment, and Ecology in the Himalayas." Iijima and Karan are also updating maps of Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhutan.

**\*Tengboche Cultural Center**

Cultural Survival, a non-profit organization from Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, has agreed to sponsor a project, coordinated by Kathleen W. Peterson, to build a Cultural Center at Tengboche Monastery in the Sherpa region of Khumbu.

Since its formation in 1972, Cultural Survival has supported projects on four continents designed to help indigenous peoples survive, both physically and culturally, the rapid changes which contact with expanding industrial society brings. Among recent projects of Cultural Survival are: support for a bilingual radio station serving the Miskito Indians of Nicaragua; titling of land for the Coaiquer Indians of Ecuador; support for a campesino leadership training program in Bolivia to assist Oriente Indians; and support for a study of the impact of small-scale development programs on the Mapuche of Chile and the CRIC of Colombia.

For some years, the Rimpoche of Tengboche Monastery has had a plan for a Cultural Center to provide a focus for Sherpa religion and culture. Now, with the urging of Kathleen W. Peterson, Cultural Survival has agreed to sponsor the raising of money for the building of such a Center.

The Center will consist of two small buildings of harmonious and indigenous design adjacent to Tengboche Monastery. One will house Tengboche's novice monks and help support traditional monastic education. The other will house a small library and museum center. The library will contain the Tengboche Rimpoche's collection of Tibetan texts as well as books in Nepali and Western languages. Multilingual pamphlets will be on hand to interpret Khumbu — its history, religion, and people. One exhibit in the museum will be devoted to objects of Sherpa history and secular life with information about important historical figures and clan history. Fine examples of Sherpa ornamentation and dress, examples of domestic, agricultural and pastoral implements, crafts and textiles will be on display. The second exhibit will contain religious artifacts, artwork, and thankas, describing the world of Buddhist ritual and iconography that provides the spiritual underpinning of Sherpa society.

For further information about the Tengboche Cultural Center, or to contribute to its construction, write:

Cultural Survival, Inc.  
11 Divinity Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA

### **\*American-Nepal Society/California Chapter Elects Officers**

Veda Joshi was elected as President of the American-Nepal Society/California Chapter. Dr. Deepak Shimkhada, Peter Sharp, Mike Stadler, and Sunil Thapa were elected First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary respectively.

### **\*Textile Exhibit at the University of Washington**

The Historic Costume and Textile Collections and the South Asian Studies Program of the University of Washington will present an exhibition entitled 'Courtyard, Bazaar, Temple: Traditions of Textile Expression in India' at the Bellevue Art Museum, May 28 - July 25, 1982.

### **\*Memorial Scholarship Fund Established to Honor Dr. Betsy Goodall**

The American-Nepal Society/California Chapter has begun a scholarship fund to honor the memory of Dr. Betsy Goodall, who died April 24, 1981. The Goodalls have been active both in the founding of the American-Nepal Society/California Chapter and in the Nepal Studies Association. According to the ANS/CC, the "fund will be used in Nepal to finance education costs for at least one year, or more if possible, for a bright and intelligent student who cannot afford higher education. The selection of such a student will be left at the discretion of Dr. Merrill Goodall, husband of the late Dr. Betsy Goodall." Inquiries and donations should be addressed to:

Sarba Shakya  
5525 Elmer Avenue #2  
North Hollywood, CA 91601 USA

### **\*Nepalese Rupee Devalued**

Nepal devalued the rupee by ten percent against the dollar and abolished its system of dual exchange rates this fall. The new rate is 13.2 N.Rs. to U.S. \$1.00 as against 12 N.Rs. to the dollar previously. All transactions will now be made under the new rate.

### **\*U.S. Fulbright Scholar in Nepal**

Frederick Shepardson has received a Fulbright for 1981-82 to initiate a program in operations research at the Institute of Business Administration, Commerce, and Public Administration at Tribhuvan University. He will be teaching courses on production management and quantitative techniques. Dr. Shepardson received his Ph.D. from MIT and is an Assistant Professor of Decision Sciences in the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University, California.

### **\*Symposium on the Himalayas and the Andes**

David Guillet and Benjamin Orlove are organizing a symposium to be held at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in December 1982 in Washington, DC. The topic of the symposium is a comparison of the Himalayas and the Andes. A

number of themes, including human ecology but by no means limited to it, will be chosen. Two papers will be delivered on each theme, one by a Himalayanist and one by an Andeanist, providing an overview of research on that particular theme, in order to facilitate comparison between the two regions. Topics which will definitely be included are: agricultural and pastoral production, the position of the region in relation to wider economic systems, the intellectual history of anthropological research in the regions, kinship, religion, and pilgrimages. Other topics being considered for inclusion are: marketing systems, stratification, and responses to environmental hazards (deforestation, frost, floods, landslides, earthquakes, etc.). Individuals who are interested in presenting papers are requested to contact Guillet or Orlove no later than March 1, 1982, with a one to two paragraph statement of the topic which they would like to discuss. Topics which are still not definitely covered for the Himalayas are: agricultural and pastoral production, the position of the region in user systems, intellectual history, pilgrimages, marketing, stratification, and environmental hazards; other topics not mentioned above may also be considered. We will notify you by March 15th on our decision whether or not to include your paper and we will inform you about the particular details of submitting an abstract to the AAA for inclusion in the symposium. Individuals planning to attend the symposium but not to present a paper are also requested to contact Guillet or Orlove by the same date, in order to better plan for the symposium. Their addresses are:

David Guillet  
Department of Sociology  
University of Missouri  
Kansas, MO 64110 USA  
(816) 276-1116

and

Benjamin Orlove  
Department of Anthropology  
University of California  
Davis, CA 95616 USA  
(916) 752-0745