



2014

Editorial

Sienna Craig

Dartmouth College, sienna.r.craig@dartmouth.edu

Mark Turin

University of British Columbia, markturin@gmail.com

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

Recommended Citation

Craig, Sienna and Turin, Mark. 2014. Editorial. *HIMALAYA* 34(2).

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/himalaya/vol34/iss2/4>



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

This Other 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.



Editorial

We are delighted to bring you Volume 34, Number 2 of *HIMALAYA*, the third volume of the journal to be published using our new design, and also the third issue to be printed in calendar year 2014. Since accepting the editorship, each volume has brought us new and exciting opportunities. Volume 34, Number 2 is no exception.

First, many readers will be struck by the dramatic and textured cover art featured on the front and back of this issue. We are grateful to artist and scholar Maureen Drdak for sharing her work with the readership of the journal. Her *Flying Nagas* series resulted from her 2011-2012 Fulbright research. This artwork speaks to cultural dislocation and concerns around environmental degradation in Nepal. Still on the topic of dislocation, anthropologist and writer Adrie Kusserow's ethnographic poem 'American Bardo' explores the isolation and challenges facing ethnically Nepali refugees from Bhutan now living in the northeast of the United States. As editors of the journal, we are critically aware that *HIMALAYA* has become a unique platform to engage with social and cultural issues of our time – with thanks for feedback that we have received from readers and guidance from our editorial board. We will continue to do so with an ever-widening range of media and genres, both in print and online.

To that end, we have introduced a new submission format with Volume 34, Number 2, which we are calling *Perspectives*. Rigorously reviewed by the editors and, as appropriate, by members of our editorial board, *Perspectives* are pithy, original, and timely contributions that take a particular stance or articulate a viewpoint that may be controversial. Our first article in this genre is by Austin Lord, who explores subjectivity, mobility, and work in what he refers to as the 'Nepalese Hydroscape.' Lord is an expert photographer, and illustrates his argument with a powerful photo essay on our website that we encourage you to explore <<http://himalayajournal.org/photo-essay/>>.

The main intellectual focus of Volume 34, Number 2 is provided by a suite of five papers guest edited and introduced by Georgina Drew. Entitled 'Developing the Himalaya,' and emerging out of an American Anthropological Association conference panel in 2012, these coordinated research contributions advance critical perspectives and emerg-

ing themes on the politics of development planning and practice, with a specific emphasis on natural resource use across the Himalayan region. We are grateful to Drew for choosing *HIMALAYA* as the venue for this important discussion and for such a stimulating and fruitful collaboration. We are also pleased that the contents of this special issue engage substantively with Tibetan and other minority nationality regions in China and areas of the Indian Himalaya.

Two further research articles are published in this issue: an exploration of Buddhist cosmology and Himalayan geography by Benjamin Bogin and a careful analysis of five contemporary Nepali novels by Michael Hutt. Each make important contributions to the scholarship and understanding of the wider Himalayan region. With these two contributions, we underscore our commitment to diversifying not only the readership but also the disciplines and scholarly traditions that are disseminated in the pages of this journal.

As ever, we could not have brought this issue to press without unflagging support from colleagues at the DeWitt Wallace Library at Macalester College, particularly Jacki Betsworth, Lilly Bock-Brownstein and Jessica Del Fiacco; Doug Tiff of the University Press of New England and staff at Maple Press. We're grateful to Simone D'Luna, our Editorial Assistant at Dartmouth, for her help with copy editing and most thankful to our Reviews Editor, Jessica Vantine Birkenholtz at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, for taking on an ever greater role in the production and editorial cooperative that defines this journal.

We hope that you, our readers and subscribers, online and in print, will learn as much from this issue of *HIMALAYA* as we have learned from compiling it. We look forward to hearing from you with your thoughts, comments and suggestions for future issues, and to presenting you with Volume 35, Number 1 in the first half of 2015.

Sienna Craig and Mark Turin
Editors, *HIMALAYA*