Fall 1983

Publication and Film News

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*New and Upcoming Releases of the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives

The Library of Tibetan Works and Archives has released the following new publications:

Meditations on the Lower Tantra (Stairway for Ascending to Tushita Buddha Field), by Glenn H. Mullin. 145pp.
Paperback $3.50, clothbound $5.00.


Candragomin's Twenty Verses on the Bodhisattva Vow and Its Commentary, translated by Mark Tatz. 74pp.
$2.75 (paperback).

The following publications will be released by December 1983:

Folk Tales of Tibet: An Anthology of Tibetan Folk Tales with illustrations in traditional Tibetan drawings, compiled and translated by Norbu Chophel.
Folk Culture of Tibet: Superstitions, Dream Interpretations and Physiological Interpretations, compiled and translated by Norbu Chophel.

Tibetan Medicine Series, No.7. this issue will contain Tibetan Childbirth and Care and Death Ceremonies.
Translated by Gevin Kilty.

Please address all inquiries and orders to the Publication Sales Executive at:
Library of Tibetan Works and Archives
Gangchen Kyishong
Dharamsala, H.P.-176215
India

*New Book
Shaha, Rishikesh


Contents:
1. Elitism in Nepali Politics
2. Periscope on Pre-Rana Period Politics in Nepal
3. Jang Bahadur, the Strongman of Nepal: His life, time and achievement
4. Patrimonial Elites of Nepal: Their identity, role and character
5. Referendum in Nepal

-13-
Conversational Ladakhi, by Sanyukta Koshal, is the first language teaching manual which attempts to teach standard spoken Ladakhi to non-native adult learners. This volume aims at developing the communicative competence of the reader in Ladakhi.

Available from: Motilal Banarsidass
Bungalow Road, Jawahar Nagar
Delhi-110007 India

Price: Rs. 200.
ISBN order number: 0 89581 5540

*Working Papers on Women in International Development*

The Office of Women in International Development at Michigan State University announces a series of Working Papers. The series is designed to disseminate information rapidly to national and international specialists in universities, government and private institutions who are concerned with development issues affecting women in relation to social, political and economic change. The series features papers at a relatively late stage of formulation, encouraging comments to facilitate communication of knowledge about the situation and needs of women in developing countries.

Manuscripts are solicited that deal with the complexities inherent in development and with people in situations of transition. The Working Paper series publishes reports of empirical studies, theoretical analyses and projects that illuminate the processes of change in the broadest sense. Its scope includes studies of women's historical and changing participation in political, economic and religious spheres, traditional roles within and outside the family, gender identity, relations between the sexes and alterations in the sexual division of labor.

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Scholarly review is prompt and manuscripts accepted by the WID Editorial Board are published within four to five weeks. Authors receive free copies to aid dissemination of information and solicitation of colleagues' comments. Authors also retain copyrights to their papers and are encouraged to submit them to the journal of their choice.

Manuscripts submitted should be double-spaced and in duplicate and include the following: (1) title page bearing the name, address and institutional affiliation of the author; (2) one-paragraph abstract; (3) text; (4) notes; (5) references cited and (6) tables and figures. The format of the article may follow any journal of the author's choice. Submit manuscripts to Rita Gallin, Editor, WID Publication Series, Office of WID, 202 International Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1035, U.S.A.

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*Publications on Langur Monkeys of the Himalayas*

Naomi and John Bishop researched the behavior of langur monkeys during 18 months in Nepal in 1971-72. The research resulted in the following publications:
Ph.D. dissertation

Journal articles by Naomi H. Bishop
1977 "Langurs Living at High Altitudes," in J. Bomb. Natural History Society, 74: 518-520. This paper describes a new altitude record for this species in the Himalayas at 4050 meters in the northern point of the Helambu valley. Observations of langurs crossing mountain ranges at this altitude provides the opportunity to discuss the Himalayan foothills as barriers to gene flow.
1979 "Himalayan Langurs: Temperate Columbines," in the Journal of Human Evolution, 8: 251-281. This article is the major summary of N. Bishop's doctoral dissertation and field study, compared and combined with data from other Himalayan langur studies in Nepal and India. A Himalayan behavioral cluster is isolated and discussed in terms of environmental stresses and intraspecies variation.

Book
1978 An Ever-Changing Place, by John M. Bishop with Naomi H. Bishop
Simon and Schuster.
A popular account of the Bishops' field experiences and a summary of research findings on langur monkey socioecology in a Himalayan ecosystem. This book includes a description of their lives in a Sherpa village in Helambu as experienced over a single year.

*Kafir Kalash of the Hindu Kush (film)*
This recently-completed, 30-minute, 16 mm color film documents the contemporary lifeway and socio-economic problems of a tribal "pagan" minority in Pakistan. Included are scenes of ritual sacrifice, shamanism, dance, and domestic activities. Herders of uncertain origin, Kalash preserved their ancient traditions and religious beliefs through retreat into three formerly inaccessible valleys of the Hindu Kush Range. All other Kafirs have been converted to Islam. Within this decade roads have opened two of the valleys to tourists and increasing Muslim residency.

Filming was done in October 1976.

This film will be of interest to anthropologists, dance historians, persons in the performing arts, and specialists in South Asian and Himalayan studies.

This film may be ordered for purchase or rental from:
Margaret Fairlie Kennedy
63 Hickory Circle
Ithaca, New York 14850 U.S.A.
(607) 272-3936
Purchase, US $425
Rental for three days, US $48

*MUSIC FROM A SHERPA VILLAGE (record)*
Recorded by John M. Bishop. Produced by Ethnic Folkways (FE 4320).
A record of secular Sherpa music, some accompanied by damian, recorded in Melemchigaon, Helambu, Nepal.

*MAP OF NEPAL*

To order contact:
Institute for the Study of Languages and Culture of Asia and Africa
Tokyo Gaikokugo Daigaku
4-51 Nishigahara, Kita-Ku
Tokyo, Japan
*New Scholarly Journal*

A new scholarly journal, *Food and Foodways: Explorations in the History and Culture of Human Nourishment*, is interested in manuscripts of original articles on "the historical and cultural meanings of food and the powerful albeit often hidden ways in which food has shaped and continues to shape our lives socially, economically, mentally, morally, and politically." Since food and food exchanges are vital to the study of both Hindu and Buddhist communities in Himalayan South Asia, the editors particularly wanted this journal brought to the attention of HRB member subscribers.

Food and Foodways is under the joint editorial leadership of Jean-Louis Flandrin (Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris) and Steven L. Kaplan (Cornell University, Ithaca, NY). It will be published four times a year, with reviews to be done in English. Its intent is clearly interdisciplinary and international, so anyone with work on food, its meanings and uses, in the Himalayas are encouraged to submit either to Steven L. Kaplan (Department of History, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 USA) or Jean-Louis Flandrin (Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 54 Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris, France).

*Research Papers from the Agricultural Development Council*

The Agricultural Development Council and the Agricultural Projects Services Centre (in Nepal) have an ongoing series of research papers dealing with agriculture. Twenty-one such papers have been released thus far. The five most recent papers were written by Nepalis with support from ADC or APROSC.

Titles and abstracts follow:

**No. 19: Domestic Resource Cost of Tea Production in Nepal**

Researcher: Bishnu B. Silwal

This study was undertaken to measure Nepal's comparative advantage in tea production, and within Nepal, to measure the relative advantages of the Hills and Tarai regions. The concept of Domestic Resource Cost (DRC) was used to estimate these advantages. Data were obtained for the period 1974/75-1977/78, and three different discount rates — 6, 10, and 15 percent — were used to derive DRC ratios. For discount rates of 6 and 10 percent, Nepal's tea industry had a comparative advantage during the study period. However, at 15 percent, DRC ratios were greater than one, implying that the industry did not have a comparative advantage. In all cases the ratios for the Hills were less than those for the Tarai, indicating that the Hills had a comparative advantage over the Tarai in tea production.

**No. 20: Small Farmer Loan Repayment Performance in Nepal**

Researchers: Krishna H. Maharjan, Chesada Loohawenchit, Richard L. Meyer

This study revealed that loan supervision and collection were the most important variables explaining agricultural loan repayment behavior by small farmers in Nepal. Most studies categorize repayment factors into ability and willingness of farmers to repay. Willingness to collect and other institutional problems may be more important in many credit programs.

**No. 21: Risk Aversion, Risk Perception, and Credit Use: The Case of Small Paddy Farmers in Nepal**

Researcher: Krishna Bahadur Hamal

This study measures farmers' risk aversion and their perception of risk with respect to new technology and relates these factors to the use of credit provided for adopting new technology. Farmers' degree of risk aversion and perception of risk are calculated by eliciting their utility functions for wealth and their subjective probability distribution functions. A subjective utility model, simple regression, and other statistical techniques are used to test the hypotheses of the study.

Most small Nepalese paddy farmers are risk-averse, and the degree of their absolute risk aversion is relatively high. Absolute risk aversion is negatively related to present wealth, which is closely related to land holding and annual income. Farmers' perceive higher risks in adopting new technology than continuing with traditional methods. Risk perception is significantly related to farmers' knowledge and experience with new technology. Farmers' absolute risk aversion and perception of risk play significant roles in their use of credit to adopt new technology.
No. 22: Logit Analysis of Technology Adoption by Rice Farmers in Dhanusha District, Nepal
Researcher: Parashar Bhakta Malla

The objective of this study was to identify the variables associated with the adoption of modern seed and use of fertilizer for rice in Dhanusha district. Maximum likelihood logit analysis was the main analytical tool.

Schooling, family size, paddy area, proportion of land area irrigated, extension visits, and fertilizer use influenced farmers' decisions to adopt modern seed, while age, family size, non-farm income, paddy area, proportion of land irrigated, radio listening, extension visits, and modern variety use influenced decisions about fertilizer use. However, schooling was negatively related to decisions regarding adoption of modern varieties and use of fertilizer. Other things equal, farmers who were co-operative members and who were exposed to extension activities were more likely to adopt modern varieties of rice and use fertilizer than farmers who were not co-operative members and who were not exposed to any extension activities.

Ensuring the availability of fertilizer, strengthening extension services, providing credit and bringing more land under irrigation are possible policy mechanisms for increasing the adoption of modern seed and use of fertilizer.

No. 23: Resource Allocation to Agricultural Research in Nepal
Researcher: Ramesh P. Sharma

This study describes the financial and manpower research resources for the period 1975/76 to 1979/80 for agricultural commodities and assess the ex post resource allocation pattern. The average annual agricultural research expenditure was 0.23 percent of agricultural GDP. Research investment relative to the value of production was 0.33 percent in crops, 0.24 percent in horticulture, 0.02 percent in forestry. The relative investment in livestock research is extremely low.

Food crops received less investment than cash crops. Poor farmers' crops such as millet, pulses, barley and the all-important crop — paddy — were underinvested compared to cash crops, maize, and wheat. Food crops were also underinvested relative to their cultivated area and importance in consumption.

This study indicates that investment in agricultural research should be increased, and livestock research in particular should receive more attention. Research on food crops, especially paddy and poor people's crops, is also required. To correct the present misallocation of resources, it is suggested that ex ante studies on resource allocation be carried out to prepare a prospective agricultural research plan.

*Book on Small Farms*


Available from: Rural Life Associates
P.O. Box 1000
Kathmandu, Nepal