Dissertation Abstracts
Cooke, Merrit Todd


Title: The People of Nyishang: Identity, Tradition and Change in the Nepal-Tibet Borderland. (Order No. DA8609986).

The cultural complexity and ethnic diversity of Nepal's population pose a unique set of problems in Nepalese ethnography and in the anthropological understanding of ethnicity. This study confronts these problems by probing the identity of a trading people whose homeland in Nyishang (Manang Valley) is located along the cultural interface where Hindu and Buddhist traditions have historically intermingled.

Following an introduction and setting which situate the Nyishang population in a broader ecological and ethnic context, consideration is given in Chapter Three to the economic adaptation of the group. A historical pattern of itinerant international trade receives special attention. In its current form, this trade is shown to be related to an emergent class-based differentiation between village- and urban-resident segments of the population.

Chapter Four examines leadership and political initiative within the group as it relates to the organization of this economic adaptation. The first part of the chapter traces the history of political mobilization by the group in defence of its trading privileges within the
wider society. The second part contrasts these traditions of concerted political unity in relations with outsiders to a tradition of feuding and village rivalry within the group.

Chapter Five analyzes the local organization of kinship and alliance as a structure underlying dynamics of group unity and intragroup conflict. Individual social networks are identified as a locus of competing power within the group but are shown to be subordinated to a structure of valley-wide political representation in relations with outsiders. The relevance of informal support networks and formal rights of enfranchisement to processes whereby certain categories of village residents are excluded from ethnic membership in the group is also discussed.

The final chapter examines aspects of group identity from the perspective of the group’s own system of culturally-constructed meaning. The aim is to show how the organization of group identity as expressed in religious belief and ritual practice is sustained by a value system in which community and religious values interpenetrate. The cleavage of the community into rural and urban segments is shown to relate, through rites of distribution and acts of patronage, to the social and religious affirmation of religious ties.

Khatry, Prem Kumar

Ph.D., University of California, Riverside, 1986. 283 pp.

Title: Childrearing and Socialization among the Newar of Dolakha and Bungmati: A Study on the Impact of Cultural Change and Continuity. (Order No. DA8623043).

Chairperson: Alan R. Beals

This dissertation describes and analyzes the prevailing methods of childrearing and socialization in two rural/semi rural Newar communities of Nepal. Field research was carried out in two small Newar towns with a view to compare rearing and socialization methods. The sample consisted of 31 households each with a total of 147 children under ten years of age.

Newar children grow up in a familial, social context characterized by closed rigid family and community organization. Child care is provided by members of the family and the community of relatives such as the maternal family of the child. The community of priests, elders and relatives enters the child's life at several stages of growth when various growth rituals are performed. Especially the late childhood rituals upgrade the male child into the world of adults; for the female child the growth rituals initiate her into the world of females and emphasize the culturally established feminine duties to be carried out as a married woman.

As the child enters late childhood, the external domain begins to play an important socialization role. The school, mass-media, and peer groups provide a different context for the growing Newar child. But the family and community mediate the influence of the external domain well into the stage of adolescence. By age ten, Newar children of Dolakha and Bungmati begin to acquire societal norms, cultural standards and behavioral skills.
The sociocultural history of the Newar is a history of assimilation, continuity and change. Despite several external invasions and the flow of immigrants, the hierarchical Newar social structure has not gone through significant changes. Similarly, family role and relationships, and the life cycle, as well as numerous religious rituals have survived through time. Collectively, they provide a strong base for the Newar worldview and lifestyle as well as guidance for the future. Newar childrearing patterns in these old, traditional settings are now changing gradually as external agents of socialization have begun to share child care and training responsibilities with the family and the community, but the basic integrative features of the society have only adjusted to changes occurring at the national level. (Abstract shortened with permission of author).

Martin, Edward D.


In the hill region of Nepal, irrigation is a primary input in agricultural production and has been for centuries in some villages. Most of the irrigation systems in the hills are owned and managed by farmers themselves. In the face of an increasing demand for food production, farmers have intensified both agricultural production and the management of irrigation systems. The focus of this research has been on farmer-managed irrigation systems and the ways in which farmer organizations perform irrigation management activities. Eight systems in four locations were studied in detail during the 1982-83 crop year.

Irrigation systems with varying levels of available water supply relative to the irrigable land were selected for study to analyze (1) the relationship of management intensity to relative water supply, and (2) the impact of water supply on the structure of irrigation organizations and on efficiency and equity in water use.

The irrigation organizations practiced more intensive management of distribution of water, the lower the water supply in relative to the area irrigated. However, the factor most determinative of the structure of the organizations was the amount of resources needed to be mobilized to maintain the irrigation system.

Allocation of water rights and careful distribution of water in accordance with each member's entitlement were found to be closely related to the amount of resources required for maintenance of the system. Where the cost of maintaining the system was high, the allocation of water rights was explicitly defined, and methods for accurate distribution of water were in conformance with the pattern of allocation were developed.

A linear programming model was developed to determine the trade-off between the supply of water and level of management input needed to achieve a given level of crop production. The model was also used to analyze the economic efficiency implications of different principles of water allocation. Allocation of water through the sale of shares in the system was found to facilitate the expansion of the area irrigated by the supply.
This study illustrates that farmer-managed hill irrigation systems of Nepal vary across locations and are changing over time in response to varying resource limitations and growing population pressure. Management inputs have been intensified to achieve greater efficiency in the use of water resources. An understanding of the dynamics of this process should assist external agencies in facilitating the process of transition to more intensive agricultural production.

McHenry, John Persons


Supervisor: Ann R. Miller

This dissertation provides a theoretical and empirical critique of the Easterlin-Crimmins synthesis approach to fertility analysis. Five data sets are examined--Columbia (1976-WFS), Costa Rica (1976-WFS), Nepal (1976-WFS), Sri Lanka (1975-WFS), and the United States (1973-NSFG). Several "improvements" to the synthesis model are suggested, particularly in the areas of model specification and estimation. Among the more important findings, sans caveats, are the following.

The vast majority of coefficients derived from a synthesis approach are correctly signed, of reasonable magnitudes, and are robust to changes in model specification or estimation. Two problem areas--the estimate of couple-level potential fertility and the estimate of the couple's number of births averted by contraceptive use--are found to be interdependent, statistically. Estimation is improved when potential fertility is modeled as a latent variable. Appropriate estimators include Tobit 2SLS techniques, or the FIML methods developed and advocated herein.

Complications arise if potential fertility is heterogenous. Suggestions for dealing with heterogeneity are discussed, but remain unimplemented.

Several unexpected findings arise. There is evidence that a rationalization bias in reported numbers of desired children is stronger in South Asia than in Latin America. The data confirm the notion that the number of methods of contraception known by respondents is biased upwards by prior exposure to contraceptive use. Wives who work on a farm before marriage have abnormally high levels of infant and child mortality even after controlling for other pertinent socioeconomic status variables such as current rural residence.

The dissertation concludes with suggestions for "new and improved" fertility surveys; a call for a sequential/dynamic version of the synthesis model; and a reference to a strategy for integrating micro-level synthesis output in macro-level analyses. Continued synthesis
research should shed new light on the causes and consequences of the fertility transition in
the third world (and developed) countries.

**Misra, Raman Raj**

Ph.D., University of Kentucky, 1986. 212 pp.

Title: Determinants of Family Size Norm in the Terai of Nepal. (Order No. DA8615864).

Director: Thomas R. Ford

The objective of the study was to explore factors determining the desired number of
children in Nepal. For this purpose, data from the Terai Development Survey collected
during 1977-78 was utilized.

Theoretically, less traditional value orientations were expected to promote a desire for fewer
children. Value orientation was considered to intervene between background variables (age,
income, education, and occupation) and policy variables (age at first marriage, knowledge of
family planning, and offspring mortality) and the family size norm.

Contingency analysis was utilized to explore both how value orientations related to the
desired number of children and what factors explain the variations in value orientations. As
a supplementary method, multiple regression was used.

It was found that value orientation did not account for much of the variation in the desired
number of children. Its association with family size norm was conditional.

Offspring mortality was negatively associated with family size norm under a number of
conditions. And under one condition, literacy promoted a desire for fewer children.

When a relationship between value orientation and the family size norm existed, both
literacy status and knowledge of family planning were persistently found to promote a less
traditional value orientation. However, their joint effect was meager.

One implication of the findings is that there exists a need to search for more relevant
variables that determine the family size norm and those that effect value orientations.
Further, though general programs for altering value orientations need not be eschewed,
smaller projects need to consider specific conditions under which they will affect family size
norm.

The need to alter values stems not only from their discerned effect on the family size norm,
but from the recognition that without a change in values, the number of desired children
can be predicted to increase. To lower family size norms simultaneous effort to enhance
education and family planning knowledge is indicated. Further, special effort to educate the
poor and disseminate knowledge of family planning among the illiterates are required.
Dependent-Arising and Emptiness: A Tibetan Buddhist Interpretation of Madhyamika Philosophy Emphasizing the Compatibility of Emptiness and Conventional Phenomena. (Volumes I & II.) (Order No. DA8615570).

This dissertation is the study of the interpretation of Madhyamika philosophy set forth by the fourteenth century Tibetan scholar Dzong-ka-ba (tsong kha pa, 1357-1419), founder of the Ge-luk-ba order of Tibetan Buddhism. Relying chiefly on the works of the great Indian Madhyamikas Nagarjuna and Chandrakirti, Dzong-ka-ba sets forth a Madhyamika interpretation that emphasized the compatibility of the doctrines of emptiness—a complete lack of inherent existence—and of conventional phenomena and activities. Thus, in Dzong-ka-ba's system, which is above all a religious one, the central Buddhist doctrine of karma, actions and their effects, and a consequent focus on ethics, moral codes of actions, is sustained within a philosophical stance of radical nominalism.

The dissertation is based on a translation of a portion of Dzong-ka-ba's Great Exposition of the Stages of the Path (lam rim chen mo), the first part of the "Great Exposition of Special Insight," having to do with identifying the object of negation by the Madhyamika reasonings. Also included is translations of the comparable section of the Four Interwoven Annotations on (Dzong-ka-ba's) "Great Exposition of the Stages of the Path," intertwined indigenous Tibetan commentaries on Dzong-ka-ba's text by Ba-so Cho-gyi-gyel-tsen (ba so chos kyi rgyal mtshan), De-druk-ken-chen Nga-wang-rap-den (sde drug mkhan chen ngag dbang rab brtan), Jam-yang-shay-ba (jam dbyangs bzhad pa) and Dra-di Ge-shay Rin-chen-don-drup (bra sti dge bshes rin chen don grub).

Many aspects of Dzong-ka-ba's Madhyamika interpretation differ significantly from understandings current in Western scholarship, and thus several chapters are devoted to a comparison of Dzong-ka-ba's views with those of modern scholars. Topics considered include whether Madhyamika is a religious system at all, whether it is an attack on all conceptuality and conventionalities, whether it is a critique of language, what the role of reasoning is in Madhyamika philosophy, whether Madhyamikas have views or theses or a system of their own, and to what extent Dzong-ka-ba's Madhyamika interpretation is supported by the Indian sources on which he relies.


Schuler, Margaret Ann


Chairperson: Garland Dean Wiggs
This qualitative, comparative study of educational, legal and organizational strategies used by Third World, nongovernmental organizations to improve the status of low-income women identifies differences and similarities in three areas: program components, structures and processes. Case studies from Nepal, Kenya and Peru are compared.

A framework for identifying and comparing the programs was established on the basis of (1) a review of relevant literature of women, law and development and (2) an analytical and diagnostic model of anticipated program components and processes. The programs selected for field study had similar goals and target populations, but represented different locations, sociopolitical contexts, and cultures. A set of open-ended questions guided the collection and analysis of data, which was obtained primarily from interviews and documents. Separate case studies describe and analyze each program, its socioeconomic and political context, and the factors that appear to have influenced its design. A cross-case analysis compares and contrasts the three programs.

The study found similarities in the design of all three programs: all included legal literacy, law reform and legal services as the principal means of improving the status of low-income women. The programs varied, however, in the processes they used, especially with regard to educational methodologies and staff roles.

The study also identified a series of external variables that influence program structure, content and methodology. These variables provide the basis for the following propositions that are to be tested in future research: (1) The political context of a program delimits the possibilities of program action; (2) leadership and organizational sponsorship affect program process; and (3) the ideological framework of program designers and implementors affects program structures and methods. The study pointed up the dynamic and political nature of women, law and development programs.

Simkhada, Shambhu Ram


Title: Study of Peace Zones with Special Reference to Nepal's Zone of Peace Proposal and its Political, Economic and Security Implications. (Order No.DA8619493).

Supervisors: Carl C. Jacobsen, Ambler H. Moss, Jr.

The Zone of Peace concept evolved as a strategy to ward-off unwanted external pressure in the internal or intra-regional affairs of other countries or regions by more powerful external actors.

Nepal, a tiny Himalayan kingdom between two Asian giants, India and China, has adopted the ZOP idea as the cornerstone of Nepalese foreign policy with significant domestic, political and economic implications.

ZOP is a declaration to pursue important national goals--independence and economic development--and protect national security by means other than military power. Its
translation into an effective instrument of policy will largely depend on whether Nepal practices what it preaches, which in turn will depend on whether more powerful external actors allow Nepal to follow such a policy.

Thapa, Poonam

Ph.D., Indiana University, 1986. 290 pp.

Title: Socioeconomic Change and Rural Migration in Nepal: Individual and Household Relations. (Order No. DA8617793).

Chair: Dennis Conway

The research analyzes migration decision making at individual and household levels to explore aspects of migration as an adjustment strategy. There are four parts to this dissertation. (1) Examination of historical relations provides evidence of relationships among the organization of land holdings, traditional labor obligations of the peasantry and the role of caste. (2) Use of survey data to identify processes of socioeconomic differentiation (changes in the social relations of production and demography of the household) over a period of 10 years--1970-80. (3) Examination of the circumstances under which the social and economic welfare of the household at origin and destination communities.

The research uses a series of Weighted Least Squares (WLS) categorical data models to estimate the strength and direction of relationships between migration and socioeconomic variables.

The results indicate that an increase in the intensity of cultivation improves the terms of tenure. The process of marginalization is characterized by an increase in sharecropping rather than by increases in fixed rental or laboring arrangements. Peasants make up for this loss in access to land by employment in the non-farm sector. The proliferation of low-return non-farm work, however, pauperizes the household. For those who have been pauperized, the entire household tends to permanently migrate. Households with access to land are less likely to migrate but rather they send out individual family members as migrants. Individual migration is not necessarily a precursor for household migration and remittances from individual migrants strengthen the household's ties to the origin. Contrary to Chayanov's theses, access to land determines family size and not vice versa. Households headed by women experience the largest decreases in standards of living. Land acquisitions at destinations was most equitable when resettlement programs were in effect.
This study considers security problems in South Asia--Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives--from both internal and external perspectives providing a comparison between Western and Third World concepts of security. The study explores the possibility of the emergence of a security regime in South Asia from a historical-descriptive-analytical perspective. Political, diplomatic, and strategic developments in postcolonial South Asia, along with their implications for the region as a whole and for the future of superpower rivalry, are considered. The study evaluates continuities and changes in the policies and perceptions of various regional actors and assesses the dynamics of U.S., Soviet, and Chinese policies toward the region.

Beginning with an analysis and examination of internal dimensions of regional security, the legacy of colonialism, linguistic and religious differences, communications systems, economic dimensions, political systems, and elite structures and attitudes are identified as the determinants of intraregional relations in South Asia. It is argued that these factors have both conflictive and cooperative dimensions. The role of the newly established South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in promoting security cooperation is examined. The internal security scenario, involving the states of the region, and the sources and patterns of conflict/cooperation between the states of South Asia are discussed. The potential nuclearization of India and Pakistan and ethnic unrest and separatist tendencies in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh and their effects on the future of regional security are explored.

The study identifies the Afghan-Pakistan conflicts, the Afghan imbroglio, and the Indian Ocean power rivalry as external dimensions of insecurity and instability in South Asia. Patterns and consequences of extraregional powers—the United States, the U.S.S.R., and China—and their responses to internal and regional conflicts are analyzed. The prospect of a security concord between the regional states, on the one hand, and the superpowers, on the other, is examined. Focusing on the political and strategic dimensions of different but interrelated issues, the study concludes that prospects for the emergence of a security regime in South Asia are extremely poor.
Constituency and Negation in Newari.
(Order No. DA8613952).

Mentor: Peter J. Binkert

The phrase structure of Newari, a Tibeto-Burman language of Nepal, has not been fully specified within a modern syntactic framework. Such a description is prerequisite to an understanding of the syntax and the scope of negation in Newari. This dissertation first determines the constituent structures of Newari within the nontransformational X-bar theory of Residential Grammar (Binkert 1984); and then analyzes the syntax and scope of negation on this basis.

Part One concentrates on the description of Newari. It consists of three chapters: an introduction specifying the objective and focus of this study in Chapter One; a brief description of the fundamental characteristics of Newari in Chapter Two; and an analysis of the phrase structure and an analysis of the language within the RG framework in Chapter Three. Different levels of the phrasal hierarchy are established, and the internal structures of the Noun Phrase and the Verb Complex are analyzed.

Part two focuses on the syntax and scope of negation. Chapter Four summarizes earlier debates on negation in English. In Chapter Five, two negative formation patterns are identified for Newari: sentential/constituent negation (mal), and lexical negation (mall). Two filters express all relevant constraints on mal.

In Chapter Six, the constituents which fall within the narrow scope of negation, i.e., elements unambiguously understood as negated in a non-contextual situation, are distinguished from those constituents which may fall within the wide scope, i.e., elements which speakers elect to focus as negated. Both kinds of scope are explained in terms of "command" and "binding" relations of Residential Grammar.

Chapter Seven presents a summary of the major findings of this study and extends a number of generalizations on the interrelationship of grammatical processes and semantic interpretation in negation in Newari.

Whelpton, David


The thesis examines the political history of Nepal from 1983, covering the decline and fall of Bhimsen Thapa, the factional struggles which ended with Jang Bahadur Kunwar (later Rana)’s emergence as premier in 1846, and Jang’s final securing of his own position when he assumed the joint roles of prime minister and maharaja in 1857. The relationship between king, political elite (bharadari), army and peasantry is analyzed, with special prominence
given to the religious aspects of Hindu kingship, and also the role of prominent Chetri families and of the Brahman Mishras, Pandes and Paudyals who provide the rajgurus (royal preceptors). Special attention is also paid to the role of the British Residency in internal politics and to rank-and-file protest in the army, which although largely manipulated by elite patrons showed signs of potential autonomy. Jang’s assumption of power is discussed in detail, emphasizing the importance of his alliance with guru Vijay Raj Pande. The main features of the new regime are outlined, including the relationship between maharaja and monarch (maharajadhiraj), the composition of the new bharadari and Jang’s dependence on it and the army, changes to the administrative system, the significance of the Muluki Ain (Law Code) of 1854, land revenue policy and relations with the British. Jang’s policies were partly the natural continuation of lines already emerging, but he nevertheless made significant changes leading to a more centralized administration, the growth of a sense of national identity, and the shift towards de facto private ownership of land which continued under his successors. Nepal remained essentially in the tradition of Hindu kingship, but with the secular functions of the king transferred to the maharaja. Jang’s regime was ‘autocratic’ but he acknowledged in principle an obligation to the governed, and had in practice to conciliate key sectors of the public, limitations which correspond to those recognized in classical Hindu political theory. Appendices give details of Jang’s family history and translations of letters written by him from Paris in 1850.

Yadava, Mohan Prasad


Title: Development of Teacher Education in Nepal.
(Order No. DA8700659).

Major Professor: Morris L. Lamb

Purpose. The purpose of this study was to trace the evolution, growth and development of teacher education in Nepal and to present these developments in a comprehensive fashion.

Procedure. The necessary data were obtained from: (1) Literature Search; (2) Official Documents; and (3) Interviews. Most of the literature and documents were obtained from various libraries and offices in Nepal. Morris Library at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and the American-Nepal Education Foundation, Tillamook, were the places from which most of the data were collected in the U.S.A. To obtain more information, personal interviews with persons of special importance in education were conducted in Nepal.

Selected Findings. (1) Teacher education has undergone four major changes, namely, the Basic Teacher Training Center, the Nepal National Teacher Training Center, the College of Education, and the Institute of Education; (2) These institutions operated under the Central authority of the Ministry of Education and Tribhuvan University; (3) Their objectives were revised and broadened gradually; (4) The curriculum comprised basic education, general education, and professional education; (5) Research activities were an integral part of the teacher education program; (6) Enrollment increased gradually to over 1,524 in 1985; (7) The number of faculty (445 in 1985) increased and their status was raised; (8) Foreign agencies
helped teacher education programs grow in many ways; (9) Some changing trends warranted attention.

Conclusions. Teacher education institutions have developed in a variety of ways. They have exerted a positive impact on the education system at all levels by introducing several inputs: (1) growth of a new curriculum design, (2) facilities for preparing and printing textbooks and other instructional materials, (3) development of laboratory and multi-purpose schools, (4) reform in the examination system, (5) introduction of a school supervision system, (6) development of an educational research program, (7) introduction of modern business methods in the schools, and (8) provision of teacher training on the college level.

Recommendations. Based upon the major findings several recommendations have been made regarding the future development of teacher education and research regarding the general topic.

Palmieri, Richard P.

Ph.D., University of California, Davis, 1976.

Title: Domestication and Exploitation of Livestock in the Nepal Himalaya and Tibet: An Ecological, Functional, and Culture Historical Study of Yak and Yak Hybrids in Society, Economy, and Culture. (University of California Press.)

For copies, write to University of California Press, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Adhikari, Babu Ram


Title: An Assessment of Water Requirement for Flooded Rice Cultivation in the River Terraces of Nepal and Implications on Water Management.

For copies, write to the Cornell University Libraries, Ithaca, NY, 14853.