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I. NEWS

*Nepal Studies Association Meets in Conjunction with the 11th Annual Conference on South Asia at Madison, Wisconsin -- November 4-7.*

The Nepal Studies Association held its annual business meeting in conjunction with the 11th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin, Madison on November 5, 1983. Furthermore, several panels and papers on Himalayan topics, sponsored by NSA and its members, were a focal part of the program of the Conference. The keynote speech at the all-conference luncheon was delivered by Dr. Trailokya Nath Upraity (UNESCO Bangkok) on "Western Scholar's Contributions to Nepalese Studies" (printed in this issue of the HRB). Dr. John Hitchcock, who was one of the founders of the NSA, was also honored at the luncheon. The American-Nepal Education Foundation was also active at the meetings and contributed considerably to its success by supporting the attendance of numerous Nepali participants, sponsoring two panels, and holding meetings for potential grantees. Over one hundred members of the NSA and others with an interest in Nepal and the Himalayas attended. By all accounts, the meeting was a success and contributed to the continuing study of the Himalayas and to essential communications between Nepali and western scholars.

Business meeting. Ronald Bernier welcomed members of the NSA and guests, announced conference events related to the Himalayas, and presented the minutes from the 1981 meeting. D. Holmberg, co-editor of the HRB, reported on the membership of the NSA. 452 copies of the last issue (Fall 1982) were mailed: 233 to paid members, 31 to institutional members, 61 to exchange and complimentary members, and 117 to potential new members. The editors encouraged people to solicit their colleagues and institutions as paid members. The editors thanked the South Asia Program and the Center for International Studies at Cornell for their continuing financial and clerical support in production of the HRB and thanked Karen Erdman, managing editor, for her excellent work in keeping the HRB going on a day to day basis. K. March, co-editor of the HRB, reported that the HRB is contemplating changing format to reduce printing and mailing costs. Moreover, she reported that the editors hope to begin publishing special issues with more substance this year; the first special number will be dedicated to John Hitchcock with Maureen Durkin-Longley acting as special editor with Holmberg and March.

The NSA decided to hold its 1983 annual meeting at the 12th Annual Conference on South Asian, Madison, Wisconsin (see announcement below) because of the excellent support and services provided by the Wisconsin staff.

Nominations for the executive board positions were solicited as follows:

1) Vice president
   a) James Fisher (declined succeeding the meeting)
   b) Donald Messerschmidt
   c) Shyam Thapa

2) Treasurer
   a) Linda Stone

3) Secretary
   a) Krishna Pradhan
   b) Deepak Shimkada

Ballots were mailed to members of the association and the results of the election will be announced in the Monsoon issue of the HRB.

Harsha Dhouradhel reported to the membership on the joint project for special education being conducted by Tribhuvan University and the University of Oregon. The American-Nepal Education Foundation is providing three scholarships to Nepalese educators this year and three more next year to support special training for future and present staff of the newly established Department of Special Education in Nepal. University of Oregon is supplying tuition grants for these trainees.

Michael Allen reported on Himalayan research being conducted by Australian scholars.

After a number of announcements and introductions the meeting adjourned.

Himalayan Panels. Six panels with a focus on the Himalayas were presented at the conference. Complete abstracts of the papers are printed in this issue of the HRB:

1) Geography of the Himalayas (Cotton Mather, University of Minnesota, Chairperson; Bheru Sukhwat, Organizer)
The Executive Committee of the NSA expresses sincere appreciation to the Organizing Committee of the Madison Conference for their service and support in making the NSA meeting such a success. Special thanks as well go to Hugh Wood and the American-Nepal Education Foundation whose support in no small way contributed to making the meeting outstanding. Last but not least, Krishna Pradhan and the Nepali community of Madison once again hosted a marvelous bhoj which is enough to attract any Himalayan enthusiast to succeeding meetings. JAI NEPAL!

*Nepal Studies Association Annual Meeting To Be Held In Madison, Wisconsin November 4-6, 1983

The Nepal Studies Association will again meet in conjunction with the 12th Annual Conference on South Asia at Madison, Wisconsin from Nov. 4-6, 1983. Paper and panel proposals for the conference are due by May 1, 1983. For proposal forms, guidelines for proposers, and additional details, write:

Conference Coordinator
South Asia Area Center
1242 Van Hise Hall
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

Further information on the meeting will appear in succeeding issues of the HRB.

People interested in coordinating panels can, if they wish, contact the HRB to try to locate collaborators, participants, discussants, etc. But do it soon to make our presence felt at next year’s meeting too.

*Women's Studies Center Being Established in Nepal

In December 1982, a group of approximately twenty Nepalese women scholars and researchers began meeting to discuss the establishment of an independent Women's Studies Center in Kathmandu. Among the provisional objectives listed in the Center's draft Constitution are: to conduct action-oriented research on various aspects relating to uplifting women; to explore contemporary women's problems and devise solutions to them; to provide counseling services to women facing hardship; to exchange ideas with international women's organizations; to improve the standard of living of rural women; and to develop public awareness in order to increase the active participation of women in national development.

The proposed Center will be autonomous and hopes eventually to obtain funding from contributions from members of the Managing Committee or other individual donations, and grants from governmental or nongovernmental organizations or various cultural programs. Initially the Center will be based in Kathmandu, but it is hoped that there can be divisions opened in other districts as well. The Center is organized and run by a Managing Committee which meets twice a month to formulate programs and evaluate the Center's progress.

*Himalayan Papers at the 81st American Anthropological Association Meetings, Washington, DC, Dec. 3-7, 1982

Several papers on Nepal and the Himalayas were presented at the 81st American Anthropological Association Meetings in Washington, DC, Dec. 3-7, 1982. Several papers were part of a panel entitled "The Andes and the Himalayas Compared: Ecology, Economy, Society and Culture in Two High-Altitude Regions." Abstracts for the Himalayan papers from this panel as well as other abstracts of Himalayan papers presented at the meetings appear below.
International Workshop on the Late Cenozoic Paleoclimatic Changes in Kashmir and Central Asia

Ahmedabad, India, October 19-23, 1982

Approximately one hundred scientists from India, France, West Germany, Denmark, Australia, the USSR and the US participated in this five-day Workshop sponsored by the Physical Research Laboratory, the Department of Science and Technology, the Indian National Academy of Science, and IGCP-128. Meeting at the Physical Research laboratory in Ahmedabad, paleontological scientists with specialties in a wide range of fields including paleobotany, paleoecology, and paleoanthropology collaborated with chrono- and biostratigraphers, archaeologists, and meteorologists to evaluate data on evolutionary Nepal and Central Asia during the late Cenozoic period.

The inaugural address by Dr. P. K. Das, Director General of the Union government's Meteorological Department underscored the continuing importance of climatic studies. The first session of the Workshop also involved a welcoming address by the Director of the PRL, Dr. D. Lal, and a vote of thanks by Dr. R. K. Pant, also with the PRL. Dr. D. P. Agrawal, official convener of the Workshop, spoke about their objectives and the import of their subject matter. Dr. George Kukla presented an overview of climate change.

The first four days of the Workshop were divided into sessions on Bio- and Chronostratigraphy and N/Q Boundary, Loess and Paleosols, Archaeology, Paleoenvironment and Paleoclimate. On the final day, there was an excursion to Lothal, an Indus Civilization port town (c. 4500 B.P.) about 80 km from Ahmedabad.

Abstracts of the papers presented were published at the Physical Research Laboratory, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad – 380009, India. The researchers, their affiliations and paper titles were:

-Paleoclimatic trends from the multidisciplinary data from the Karewas, Kashmir.
  D. P. Agrawal (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, India)
  A. B. Vora (Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, India)

-Bio-, chrono- and magneto-stratigraphic correlation of the Kashmir Karewas
  D. P. Agrawal (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  D. K. Bhatt (Geological Survey of India, Lucknow-7, India)
  B. S. Kotlia (Panjab University, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  R. Dodia (Gujarat University, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  S. Kusumgar (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  Ashok Sahni (Panjab University, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  N. Awasthi (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, India)
  J. S. Guleria (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow)

-Magaplant remains from the Lower Karewa of Kashmir
  N. Awasthi (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow)
  J. S. Guleria (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow)

-Ostracodes and Palaeoecology of the Karewa formation of Hirpur and Romushi Sections, Kashmir, India
  S. B. Bhatia (Department of Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh)
  R. S. Batra (Department of Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh)
  B. S. Kotlia (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
  R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)

-Micromorphology and genesis of palaeosols of some selected Loess profiles in the Kashmir valley and their relevance for stratigraphy and palaeoclimate
  A. Bronger (Geographical Institute, University of Kiel, Fed. Republic of Germany)
  R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, India)

-The age and Developmental History of the Karewas, Kashmir as Determined from Fission-Track Dating and Magnetostratigraphies.
  Douglas W. Burbank (Department of Geological Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0741)

-Plant Husbandry in Neolithic Burzahom Kashmir
  G. M. Buth (Department of Botany, Kashmir University, Srinagar, India)
- The Iron Age and Early Historic Period in Kashmir
  Dilip K. Chakrabarti (Delhi University, Delhi, India)

- An introduction to the environmental and climatic factors that determine the isotopic compositions of plants
  Michael J. DeNiro (Department of Earth & Space Sciences and Programme in Archaeology, University of California, Los Angeles, California 90024)

- Palynological data from Holocene bog cores from Kashmir
  R. Dodia (Gujarat University, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  C. Mandavia (M. G. Science College, Ahmedabad-9, India)
  H. P. Gupta (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow-7, India)
  C. Sharma (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow-7, India)
  A. B. Vora (Gujarat University, Ahmedabad-9, India)

- A 1500 year old pollen profile from Botapathri bog
  R. Dodia (Department of Botany, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad)
  D. P. Agrawal (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
  Sheela Kusumgar (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
  A. B. Vora (Department of Botany, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad)

- The Neogene-Quaternary Boundary in Central Asia and inter-regional correlation
  A. E. Dodonov (Institute of Geology, Moscow)

- Stratigraphy and Pedogenesis of the loess formation of Southern Tadjikistan
  A. E. Dodonov (Akademija Nauk, Moscow, USSR)
  S. P. Lomov (Akademija Nauk, Moscow, USSR)

- Analysis of lithic and ceramic industries from Kashmir and their spatial variations
  C. Gaillard (C.N.R.S., Paris)
  R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
  Vinod Nautiyal (Garhwal University, Srinagar)

- Environment and ecology of Neogene Sivalik sediments at Ramnagar (Jammu and Kashmir)
  R. Gaur (Department of Anthropology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India)

- A preliminary report on the occurrence of diatoms from Hirpur Location-III, Lower Karewa, Kashmir
  Hari Pal Gupta (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow-7)
  Asha Khandelwal (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow-7)

- Palynostratigraphy and palaeoenvironments, Dubjan, Lower Karewa, Kashmir
  H. P. Gupta (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany)
  Chhaya Sharma (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany)
  Rekha Dodia (Gujarat University)
  Chetna Mandavia (M. G. Science College)

- Pollen-Analytical results from Wapzan, Kashmir
  H. P. Gupta (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany)
  Chhaya Sharma (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany)
  Rekha Dodia (Gujarat University)
  D. P. Agrawal (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad-9)
  R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad-9)

- Palynostratigraphy and Palaeoenvironments of Kashmir: Hirpur Locality-III, Lower Karewas
  H. P. Gupta (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany)
  Chhaya Sharma (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany)
  Rekha Dodia (Gujarat University)
  Chetna Mandavia (M. G. Science Institute)
  A. B. Vora (Gujarat University)

- Dispersion in porous media: Some palaeoclimatic implications
  S. K. Gupta (Physical Research Laboratory, Navrangpura)
  P. Sharma (Physical Research Laboratory, Navrangpura)
-Quaternary Stratigraphy of the Himalayas
V. J. Gupta (Centre of Advanced Study in Geology, Panjab University)

-The Fossil Record of Human Evolution in Central Asia: New Discoveries and Interpretations
Kenneth A. R. Kennedy (Cornell University)

-Stable isotopic and climatic data from Kashmir
R. V. Krishnamurthy (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
M. J. DeNiro (Dept. of Earth and Space Sciences, U. of California, Los Angeles)
R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, India)

-Magnetostratigraphy of the Karewas, Kashmir
Sheela Kusumgar (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, India)
D. P. Agrawal (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, India)
R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, India)

-Fossil diatoms from Baltal, Karewa Beds of Kashmir
D. J. Mohan (Gujarat University, Ahmedabad-9)
H. P. Gandhi (Gujarat University, Ahmedabad-9)
A. B. Vora (Gujarat University, Ahmedabad-9)

-Neogene/Quaternary boundary and associated upper Siwalik faunas of the Himalayan foothills
A. C. Nanda (Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology)

-Climatic record of Himalayan glaciers
V. N. Nijampurkar (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Geological Survey of India, Bhutan)
N. Bhandari (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Geological Survey of India, Bhutan)
C. P. Vohra (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Geological Survey of India, Bhutan)

-A note on Quaternary Geomorphology of Ladakh with particular reference to Environment appreciation around Leh.
Saroj K. Pal (Delhi University, Delhi)

-Dendroclimatic Studies on the Northern Trees
G. B. Pant (Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology)

-Recent archaeological investigations in Kashmir valley
R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
Claire Gaillard (C.N.R.S., France)
V. Nautiyal (Garhwal University, Srinagar)
S. L. Shali (Kashmir University, Srinagar)

-Kashmir Loess Stratigraphy
R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Dept. of Geology, Delhi University)
R. V. Krishnamurthy (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Dept. of Geology, Delhi University)
Kamla Bisht (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Dept. of Geology, Delhi University)
S. K. Tandon (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Dept. of Geology, Delhi University)

-Extent of late-Pleistocene glaciers in West-Central Asia based on interpretation of Landsat Imagery
Stephen C. Porter (Quaternary Research Centre, University of Washington)

-Climatic significance of stable isotopic covariations in different species of trees in Kashmir
R. Ramesh (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
S. K. Battacharya (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
K. Gopalan (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)

-Karewa Microvertebrates: Biostratigraphical and Palaeoecological implications
Ashok Sahni (Centre of Advanced Study in Geology, Panjab University)
B. S. Kotlia (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)

-Early settlers of Kashmir -- Literary and Archaeological data
S. L. Shali (Centre for Central Asian Studies, Kashmir University)
- The Late Cenozoic mammals in Pamir-Alay
  S. Sharapov (Academy of Sciences, Sushambe, USSR)

- Late Cenozoic Magnetostratigraphy and Palaeoclimatic Changes in Southeastern Australia in a Global perspective
  Gurdip Singh (Dept. of Biogeography and Geomorphology, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, Canberra)

- Thermoluminescence studies on Loess
  A. K. Singhvi (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)
  D. P. Agrawal (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)

- Sedimentology of the Kashmir Neogene Valley fill basin, Western Himalaya, India
  S. K. Tandon (Department of Geology, Delhi University)
  R. K. Pant (Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad)

- Climatic data on Kashmir from Kalhana's Rajatarangini
  V. S. Wakankar (Institute of Rock Art, Ujjain)

*Asia Society Offers Introduction to Himalayas*

The Asia Society, New York, presented a series of lectures and films on the Himalayas in January, February, and March:

Thursday, January 13
Illustrated lecture -- "Introduction and Historical Overview" -- by Dr. Michael Aris, Oxford University.

Thursday, January 20
Illustrated lecture -- "The Jewel in the Lotus: Religions of the Himalaya" -- by Professor Robert Thurman, Amherst College.

Thursday, January 27
Illustrated lecture -- "Mountain and Man: Cultural Ecology of the Himalaya" -- by Dr. Barry Bishop, National Geographic Society.

Thursday, February 3
Illustrated lecture -- "People and Society Change" -- by Dr. Barbara Aziz, Columbia University.

Thursday, February 10
Films

Thursday, February 17
Lecture -- "Contemporary Himalayan Politics and Economy: Diverse Approaches" -- by Professor Leo Rose, University of California, Berkeley.

Thursday, February 24
Illustrated lecture -- "Dramatic and Horrific Art of the Himalaya" -- by Professor Ronald Bernier, University of Colorado.

Thursday, March 3
Performing Arts Demonstration and Reception

For further information write:
The Asia Society
Public Affairs Department
725 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10021

*Association of Nepalese in America*

An ad-hoc committee is planning to establish an organization of Nepalese in America. Most probably the general meeting will soon be held on the east coast to inaugurate this proposed Association of Nepalese in America. Towards this goal Veda Joshi, one of the members of the ad-hoc committee, has helped prepare a draft of the by-laws for this organization. He also has prepared a complete list of Nepalese in America by the States. Without the cooperation of each and every Nepalese in America it will not be possible to keep this roster up-to-date. Hence, request is made to all the Nepalese in America to send change of address & telephone number to Veda Joshi, 22814 So. Berendo Ave., Torrance, CA. 90502.

(Courtesy of ANS/CALIF.)
H.M. Forms Royal Commission For Higher Education

His Majesty the King has formed a five-member Royal Commission for Higher Education under the chairmanship of RP member Randhir Subba. The Royal Commission is entrusted with the task of preparing a report on measures in higher education needed for the greater good of the country after duly scrutinizing the gains made since the beginning of national education system plan. The Commission will also review existing conditions and come up with policies for improving the quality of higher education in the kingdom of Nepal. (Courtesy ANS/CALIF.)

Request to all Ph.D Holders

The Royal Nepal Academy aims to compile and publish a booklet containing abstracts/summaries of theses/dissertations presented by Nepali scholars for the fulfillment of the degree of Ph.D. from various universities. It was requested that any scholar holding a Ph.D. send a copy of synopsis/abstract of the original thesis/dissertations on or before September 1982. (Courtesy ANS/CALIF.)

American-Nepal Society of California Holds Meeting and Election

An Annual Election meeting of America-Nepal Society of Calif. Inc., and Dashain party was held on October 30, 1982 at Dolphin Park, Carson, Calif. in a festive atmosphere. At the end of the election, the Chairman of the Nominating and Election Committee, Mr. Raju Malla, announced the following as Directors and Executives of the Society for 1983.

Director and President -- Veda B. Joshi
Director and 1st Vice-President -- Pravin Tulachan
Director and 2nd Vice-President -- Sunil B. Thapa
Director and Treasurer -- Mike Stadler
Director and Secretary -- Buddha Shakya

The position for Director and President was kept vacant for any prospective volunteer but due to lack of such volunteer, Veda B. Joshi, the founder of the Society, was re-elected for this position for the 10th term.

The Election meeting and Dashain party was high-lighted with a cultural entertaining program organized by some of the Nepalese members. Dr. Deepak Shimkhada, the out-going 1st Vice-President was the program co-ordinator for this successful program.

The Founder and President welcomed the new Board of Directors and Executives for 1983. He also expressed thanks and appreciation to the out-going Directors and Executives for their excellent voluntary services to the Society.

Dr. Ferdinand Okada Dies

Ferdinand Okada, a noted anthropologist of Nepal and development worker, died November 18, 1982.

Himalayan Panel at American Association of Geographers Meeting

P. P. Karan has organized a panel entitled "Himalaya: Aspects of Environment and Development" for the AAG meetings in Denver, Colorado from April 24-27, 1983. The panel will consist of papers by: Balaram Dey (Howard Univ.), "Applications of Remote Sensing for Seasonal Streamflow Predictions in the Indus Basin"; Wilford A. Bladen (Univ. of Kentucky), "Man and Environment: Problems in the Sikkim Himalaya"; Mohan Shrestha (Bowling Green), "Impacts of Tourism on the Nepalese Economy"; and P. P. Karan (Univ. of Kentucky), "Response to Environmental Hazards in Sikkim Himalaya."

Luncheon Address to 11th Annual Conference on South Asia

Title: Western Scholars' Contributions to Nepal Studies

by Dr. Trailokya Nath Upraity, UNESCO Regional Advisor For Culture in Asia & the Pacific

Before I begin my talk this afternoon, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who made it possible for me to be here today. I am grateful to Professor David Knipe and his Program Committee for

Special thanks for assistance in the preparation of this paper go to Ronald Bernier, Joseph Elder, and James Fisher.
having invited me to share in this pleasant occasion. I am also grateful to Hugh B. Wood, Executive Director of the American-Nepal Education Foundation, who played a key role in linking together the far-flung components of my travel arrangements. I am also grateful to the University of Wisconsin's South Asian Area Centre for having arranged this Eleventh Annual Conference, which provides such an auspicious setting for the meeting of the Nepal Studies Association. The flourishing of this Association, and its continued well-being, brings joy to the hearts of all of us who want to learn more about ourselves as we are today as well as how we were in previous centuries of Nepal's existence.

My topic for this afternoon is: "Western Scholars' Contributions to Nepal Studies." The topic is a vast one -- too vast to be encompassed within the parameters of an after-luncheon talk. But I shall try to mention what a few of the major contributions have been and to put them into some kind of order, because I think there are lessons to be learned from western scholars' contributions to Nepal studies.

For the sake of simplifying history a little, let me draw a line in Nepal's history during the year of 1951. That was the year that saw the end of the Rana rule and the restoration of his majesty, King Tribhuvan, to the throne. That was also the year that marked a kind of "opening" of Nepal to foreigners -- including Westerners -- so that they could come into Nepal to observe whatever they might wish -- to label and collect, to organize and analyze, and to become important contributors to Nepal's scholarly awareness of itself. Let us begin with the pre-1951 era.

One of the earliest Western comments we have about Nepal comes from a letter written by Sir Robert Barker to Lord Clive in India in 1766. Robert Barker was trying to interest Lord Clive and the East India Company in territories bordering the Nepali terai. So he made an early economic assessment of this area:

"(Nepal's) firs will afford masts for all the ships of India, which must produce a new and considerable trade with the other nations in India, as well as advantage to our own shipping. Gold and cinnamon are also here (the latter we gather in the jungles); timbers as large as any I have seen, musk, and elephants' teeth, besides many other commodities I have not as yet got the knowledge of."2

As is so often the case with contemporary economic assessors today, Sir Robert Barker had made some mistakes in his calculations. It turns out there was almost no gold in that area. The cinnamon to which Barker referred was nothing other than a rather common weed. And the musk never got closer than Lower Tibet! Nonetheless, Sir Robert Barker must be credited with trying to say something scholarly about Nepal -- even if, in the end, he didn't quite succeed! With a beginning like this in 1766, Western scholarship had no place to go but up!

A somewhat more successful Western scholar was Colonel William Kirkpatrick. Chinese troops had crossed over Tibet and had approached the perimeters of the Kathmandu valley. The "Goorkhali" rulers had called on the British in India to send them military assistance. The British were distinctly unenthusiastic about waging war against the Chinese -- especially in view of the fact that only recently Britain had concluded a friendly understanding directly with China. So Britain offered to send a mediator who would negotiate some kind of withdrawal by the Chinese. And Colonel William Kirkpatrick was to have been the officer to conduct those negotiations. As luck would have it, the "Goorkhali" rulers had successfully negotiated the withdrawal of the Chinese before Colonel Kirkpatrick ever reached Kathmandu! So he had little to do on his visit to the valley but to make notes of the many curious things he observed. Eighteen years later, his notes (slightly modified) were published under the title: An Account of the Kingdom of Nepal, Being the Substance of Observations Made During a Mission to That Country in the Year 1793. Kirkpatrick's Account -- even today -- is a marvelous grab-bag of information about Nepal. The Colonel includes extensive sections on Nepal's geography, as well as shorter sections on how property was divided, how cultivation was conducted, what weights and measures were used, what metals and minerals lay beneath the soil, what religious festivals were observed, and which people spoke what languages. There is scarcely one of us in this room who would not find something curious and intriguing in the nearly 400 pages of Kirkpatrick's Account. To top it all off, the Colonel had included sixteen careful illustrations -- including a map of "Nepal", a panoramic view of the Kathmandu Valley, and a close-up sketch of a "khookeri." With the usual scholarly notes of caution, one might say that Western scholars' contributions to Nepal studies began with Colonel Kirkpatrick.

In 1819, eight years after Colonel Kirkpatrick's Account, a second major book appeared -- written by a Westerner and dealing with Nepal. Francis Buchanan Hamilton, who had already published books on Assam and Bengal, brought out his book on the Kathmandu valley, this one entitled An Account of the Kingdom of Nepal...

and of the Territories Annexed to This Dominion by the House of Gorkha. Like Kirkpatrick's book, Hamilton's Account included a most extraordinary range of information -- lists of ceremonies and descriptions of temples, reports of market conditions and accounts of domestic animals. Much that Hamilton said underscored what Kirkpatrick had already presented.

Major Western accounts of life in Nepal did not extend beyond the Kathmandu valley until Brian H. Hodgson appeared on the scene. Drawing on his nineteen years in Nepal, he published a range of works, including his Comparative Vocabulary of the Languages of the Broken Tribes of Nepal (1837), and his highly-regarded The Sanskrit Buddhist Literature of Nepal (1882). Best known of his works are his collection titled Essays on the Languages, Literature and Religion of Nepal and Tibet Together with Further Papers on the Geography, Ethnology and Commerce of Those Countries (1874). In a day when scholars prided themselves on their breadth of knowledge, Brian Hodgson outdid himself! His Essays covered religion, sociology, botany, horticulture, architecture, art, geography, and economics, in addition to his special essays on languages and literatures. Through Hodgson's Essays, Western readers could begin to appreciate the range and variety of materials awaiting research throughout all of Nepal.

The next major contribution of Western scholarship to Nepal studies came from Dr. Daniel Wright, an English medical doctor with a flair for languages and translation. In 1877 appeared his History of Nepal which, as its subtitle indicated, was a translation by Munshi Shew Shunker Singh and Pandit Shri Gunanand from the so-called Parbatiya language of the Vamoavali according to the Buddhist recension. I suppose in a way this might be called the first thoroughly collaborative Nepali-Westerner publication. Neither the two Nepali translators, nor the one English doctor could have produced the History of Nepal alone. Appended as an introductory essay to the translation was a sketch of the country and people of Nepal by Dr. Wright himself. The three co-writers established a pattern of cooperative scholarship that might well have been emulated more often in subsequent years.

The year 1880, three years later, saw the publication of Henry A. Oldfield's two-volume Sketches from Nepal, Historical and Descriptive ... to which is added an Essay on Nepalese Buddhism, and illustrations of religious monuments, architecture and scenery, etc. It is Oldfield's "et-cetera" that catches one's attention. Oldfield left scarcely a field of human learning untouched, be it geography or geology, flora or fauna, religious belief or religious practice. A reader of Oldfield's Sketches from Nepal will be struck especially by the illustrations; they could have been drawn in 1980 as readily as they were drawn in 1880. The two volumes contain a wealth of information, but information that is largely descriptive and declarative -- rather than analytic or questioning.

It was another quarter of a century before Western scholarship produced an opus on the level of Oldfield's Sketches from Nepal. And now French talent entered the scene. Between 1905 and 1908 Sylvain Levi published his three-volume Le Nepal. Étude Historique d'un Royaume Hindou (Nepal: An Historical Study of a Hindu Kingdom). In the style of classical French scholarship, Sylvain Levi placed Nepal within the generic category of a Hindu kingdom. Within such a category, readers could draw their own comparisons between Nepal as a Hindu kingdom and earlier Rajput, Jat, or Maratha Hindu kingdoms on the plains of India. If Levi's Le Nepal were not the definitive work in comparative political structure, it at least clearly pointed the way in which such comparative political structural analysis could be constructed.

One final magnum opus of Western scholarship on Nepal prior to 1951 needs mentioning -- and that is a work by the Englishman, Percival Landon. Landon already had major South Asian publications to his credit when he turned his attention to Nepal -- a book dealing with the Delhi Durbar of 1903, a volume on Indian cities entitled Under the Sun, and a two-volume work on Lhasa in Tibet. His 1928 two-volume set entitled simply Nepal, along with its illustrations and maps, begins to point the direction away from massive collections of tidbits about the Kingdom of Nepal, and toward the application of historiography and critical analysis to carefully-researched bodies of data.

By the time we reach the 1951 line in Nepal's history, then, there had already been substantial contributions by Western scholars to Nepal studies. The "scholars" had been an interesting lot -- British civil servants and military personnel, medical doctors, and travelers, people, by and large, whose primary employment was not the accumulating and organizing of scholarly facts. They gathered the data in their free time, writing down their observations in diaries and letters, cross-checking facts when they could, constantly expressing the desire for more time, return visits, and validating interviews. They rarely worked with any knowledge of the language -- usually depending on translators working across one -- and sometimes two -- languages. Given these hurdles, one may express amazement more that there are so few mistakes than that there are so many in the publications the pioneers have left for us!

The year 1951 provides a watershed year in Nepali history. The new faces at the nation's helm meant new policies. Within the next two decades, technical assistance missions arrived in Nepal from the United States
and the Soviet Union, from China and India, from the United Nations and the United Kingdom, from Australia, Israel, New Zealand, Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany, and Switzerland. Tribhuvan University was chartered in Kirtipur, on the outskirts of Kathmandu, in 1959. The Max Muller Bhavan, the United States Educational Foundation in Nepal, the Ford Foundation, and scores of other institutes and organizations involved with education provided unprecedented funds for scholars, professors, teachers, and students to leave Nepal for study abroad and to come to Nepal for research and training.

Within the changed context, Nepali scholarship flourished as it never had before. The Institute of Nepal and Asian Studies (and its various re-namings), the Centre for Economic Development and Administration, and the Research Division of Tribhuvan University all provided institutional support for research and publications. Journals such as Kailash and Contributions to Nepalese Studies, publications like the Regmi Research Collections, and publishing houses like Ratna Pustak Bhandar and Tribhuvan University Press all contributed to an intellectual climate encouraging scholarship. One can touch on only a few of the major works from this era by Nepali scholars: Dilli Raman Regmi's historical series on Ancient Nepal, Medieval Nepal, and Modern Nepal; Mahesh Chandra Regmi's four volumes on Land Tenure and Taxation in Nepal, his A Study in Nepali Economic History, and his Landownership in Nepal; Dor Bahadur Bista's classic People of Nepal, as well as his Patterns of Migration in Nepal; Prayag Raj Sharma's Preliminary Study of the Art and Architecture of the Karnali Basin, West Nepal; various articles by Harke Bahadur Gurung and Pashupati Shamshere J. B. Rana, and the political-science writings of Rishikesh Shah, including his 1975 Nepali Politics: Retrospect and Prospect.

Alongside this flowering of scholarship by Nepali scholars came a crop of Western scholars, providing their contributions to Nepal Studies. A major difference between the pre-1951 scholars and the post-1951 scholars was the disciplinary specialization of the post-1951 scholars. Gone was the writing of Colonel Kirkpatrick, with a description of catching elephants preceding a discussion of the Sakti river, and a presentation of Nepal's minerals and metals leading to a discussion of animal and vegetable productions, population and classes of inhabitants, customs and manners, temples and religious festivals, commerce, coins, and languages!

Among this new breed of disciplinary specialist, the Western anthropologists made, perhaps, the most distinguished contributions, for Nepal was something of an anthropologists' paradise! First in line, chronologically, was a Professor of Asian Anthropology in the University of London, Christoph von Furer-Haimendorf. Professor Haimendorf had already published a shelf-full of anthropological works on such tribal peoples of India as the Nagas, the Chenchus, the Reddis, and the Raj Gonds. As soon as it was possible to conduct anthropological research in Nepal, he began to tramp through the remote areas of Nepal, recording copious field notes, returning to the outside world long enough to publish them, and then returning to his beloved Nepali hills. His writings on the Tamangs and on caste in the multi-ethnic society of Nepal were followed by such volumes as The Sherpas of Nepal, his edited book Caste and Kin in Nepal, India and Ceylon, and his Himalayan Traders: Life in Highland Nepal. Professor Haimendorf mapped the ethnography of Nepal as no one had before. He has, I believe correctly, been identified as the grandfather of Nepali anthropology.

Anthropologists from the United States began to make substantial contributions to Nepal Studies. In the very front rank of those American scholars was the University of Wisconsin's Professor John Hitchcock. Like Professor Haimendorf, John Hitchcock had already established himself as a front-rank scholar with his works based on India. He had co-authored with Alan Beals a guide for fieldworkers in India, and he and Leigh Mirtun had published their classic The Rajputs of Kalapur, India, one of the six volumes in the place-setting Studies of Child Rearing Series. In Nepal John Hitchcock focused on an area between the Seti and the Kali Gandaki rivers, south of Pokhara. From his months of work there came his book The Magars of Banyan Hill, a publication that has been held up as a model for subsequent researchers. John Hitchcock also pioneered in the production of documentary films in Nepal. Among his films dealing with problems of Nepal's forests and ecology, and the role of anthropologists while engaged in fieldwork are his two films showing traditional forms of curing: Himalayan Shaman of Northern Nepal and Himalayan Shaman of Southern Nepal. The sensitivity with which John Hitchcock presents these two shamans has been pointed out again and again to subsequent anthropological filmmakers. John Hitchcock's increasing interest in the phenomenon of 'possession' led him to one of his more recent publications -- a book co-edited with R. L. Jones entitled Spirit Possession in the Nepal Himalayas.

Following in the footsteps of John Hitchcock one finds younger American scholars, such as Professor James Fisher, who wrote his Ph.D. dissertation on the Magars. Professor Fisher then moved on to study the Sherpas of Nepal. Western scholars' contributions to the study of the Sherpas have been substantial. In the 1970's a West German research team began to gather systematic data on virtually every aspect of Sherpa life. Sherry Ortner (from the U.S.) has studied the Sherpas Through Their Rituals. Andrew W. Macdonald (from Scotland and France) and David Snellgrove (from Great Britain) have also developed important materials on the Sherpas, as has Melvin Goldstein (from the US).
Not only has the discipline of anthropology become more clearly outlined since 1951, so (it seems) have the ethnic affiliations of the anthropologists! The names of the American Charles MacDougall and the Britisher Nick Allen are associated with the Rai. The Britisher Adam Macfarlane, the Frenchman B. Pigne`de, and the American Donald Messerschmidt have all directed their anthropological research toward the Gurungs. The Frenchman Philippe Sagant and the American Rex Jones are identified with the Limbus. The American Joseph Reinhard has focused on such obscure hunting and gathering tribes as the Raute and the Kusunda, while the Japanese Hiroshi Ishi and the American William Stablein have studied the Newars.

Standing beside the anthropologists as contributors to Nepal Studies have been western linguists and language specialists. During its years of activity in Nepal, the Summer Institute of Linguistics, under the direction of Austin Hayle, mapped the languages of Nepal. Typically, the S.I.L. assigned fieldworkers to spend up to five years in the midst of peoples whose languages had never been written, and gave those fieldworkers the tasks of preparing word lists, glossaries, grammars, and language-instruction books. In a related field, the American scholar, Theodore Riccardi, Jr., translated inscriptions of King Rama Shah of Gorkha and King Girvan Yuddha Vikrama Shah of Nepal. And the American David Rubin translated into English the writings of the pre-eminent Nepali poet, Laxmiprasad Devkota.

In the field of political science in Nepal, the names of the American scholars Leo Rose, Margaret Fisher, and Fred Gaige are highly regarded for their contributions to the analysis of political processes in present-day Nepal. In sociology and political economy one thinks of the British scholars Lionel and A. Patricia Caplan, with his book Land and Social Change in East Nepal, among other writings, and her book Priests and Cobblers: A Study of Social Change in a Hindu Village in Western Nepal. In this same category one can place the Americans Rex and Shirley Jones' book Himalayan Women. The French scholar Marc Gaborieau is perhaps best known in Nepal for his work with Muslims—especially the Muslims in Western Nepal.

Western historians have added their contributions to Nepal Studies. The Italian historian Luciano Petech with his Mediaeval History of Nepal (C. 750 to 1480), the Italian G. Tucci’s book Nepal: The Discovery of the Malla, and the American Father Ludwig Stiller’s The Rise of the House of Gorkha each fill important gaps in the knowledge of Nepal's past.

Probable no one has ever been as dedicated to the recording of Nepali music as has the American ethnomusicologist, Terry Bech. From his office as director of the United Stated Educational Foundation in Nepal, Terry Bech would strike out each year for several months, with his tape-recorder and a backpack full of tapes, to collect and annotate the music of virtually every region in Nepal. The tape archives which Terry Bech has organized in Indiana University provide the richest Nepali musical resource anywhere in the world.

Western scholarship has not overlooked the biological sciences in Nepal. The Smithsonian-Institution-funded studies of the migratory habits of tigers in Nepal's terai, and the Johns Hopkins-funded studies of aggressive behavior of rhesus monkeys (especially the rhesus monkeys near Pashupatinath Temple) in Kathmandu added significant information about some of Nepal's animal citizens. Similarly, the Robert Fleming book on the birds of Nepal will long stand as a major Western contribution to ornithology in Nepal.

Finally, no recounting of Western contributions to Nepal studies would be complete without reference to scholars who have focused their attention on Nepal's art and architecture. These were topics that fascinated Kirkpatrick and Hamilton 250 years ago, just as they fascinate us today. Names that stand out among the many who have worked in these fields are the American Ronald Bernier, with his book The Temples of Nepal, the German Neils Gutschow, with his analysis of art as it relates to ritual space and to its living environment, the Austrian Carl Pruscha, with his two-volume encyclopedia of architectural history recording virtually all the 2,000 temples in the Kathmandu valley, and the American scholar Mary Slusser. Mary Slusser's major work reporting on fifteen years of research and analysis is a fascinating interweaving of Nepali art, anthropology, and cultural history. Her book, Nepal Mandala, will stand as a monument to Nepali art scholarship for many years.

Not only have Western scholars studied Nepali art and architecture, they have also, in certain ways, restored it and taught us how to restore it. The conservationist, John Sandey, and the German specialist, Wolfgang Koren, helped rebuild Kathmandu's Hanuman Dhoka. In doing so, they trained Nepali woodcarvers and artisans in metal, brick, and woodworking skills that had virtually disappeared from Nepal. They and others affiliated with the Hanuman Dhoka Restoration Project charted a course for restoring many of the major architectural monuments throughout Nepal.

I wish to conclude my remarks by referring to those persons who, during the past decades, have seen to it that samples of Nepali art have been brought to the United States. I am referring to American museum curators who have arranged for tours of Nepali art. At the head of the list is the redoubtable Stella Kramrisch. Her 1964 display of Nepali art and sculpture at the Asia Society in New York City exposed many Americans for the
first time to the exquisite quality of Nepali artistry. Fifteen years later Pratapaditya Pal, the curator of the Los Angeles County Museum, arranged an exhibition of Nepali painting and sculpture under the title "Nepal, Where the Gods are Young." And throughout those years, Eleanor Olsen, curator of Himalayan Art in the Newark, New Jersey Museum, has quietly and devotedly gathered one of the most impressive collections of Nepali art anywhere in the world. These Western scholars have used their gifts to bring Nepal Studies to the attention and appreciation of thousands of their fellow Americans.

For most of my talk today I have focused on the role of Western scholars in relation to Nepal studies. Is there a danger that western scholars will dominate Nepal studies? I don't think so. Outsiders can bring perspectives to situations that insiders may not see because they take those perspectives for granted.

The United States benefited more than a century ago when a Frenchman, Alexis de Tocqueville, traveled throughout the country and wrote his observations on democracy in America. Forty years ago the United States benefited again from the scholarship of another outsider, a Swede named Gunnar Myrdal, who wrote on race relations as an "American Dilemma."

That is one of the beauties of scholarship. It can -- and does -- transcend national boundaries. It can -- and does -- build international bridges. Our world can use many more such bridges in the coming decades. I thank you for having given me this opportunity to address you.

*Abstracts from 11th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin -- Nov. 4-7, 1983

1. Geography of the Himalayas

*SHRESTHA, Mohan (Bowling Green State University) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE: A CASE STUDY OF NEPAL. Economic development means an enrichment of the quality of material life, and it can be translated into enough food, better health and more education for all. Mere economic growth without a significant change in the distribution pattern of wealth does not necessarily eliminate poverty in a country. Within the last 30 years Nepal has completed five successive development plans. Despite the ambitious planning targets and stronger commitments to egalitarian income distribution, these development plans have done very little in bringing about the material progress for the majority of the Nepalese people. Just to keep pace with other low income countries in reducing poverty, Nepal would require a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of more than 6 percent per year. Such a high rate of growth is seeming beyond Nepal's means at present. There has been modest growth without development. The failure of Nepal's development efforts is due to the fast population growth, lack of dynamic leadership at various levels, lack of regional balance and ordering of development priorities, and to some extent environmental and external political constraints. Instead of large scale industries, Nepal should adopt a very selective approach to industrial development. Low cost, small scale industries should be established in all geographic areas, and the income generated from such industries should stay in those villages to improve their own economies.

THAPA, Shyam (Brown) DESIRED FAMILY SIZE IN NEPAL: IS THE CONCEPT MEANINGFUL TO NEPALI WOMEN? Questions on ideal or preferred family size, which tend to be frequently incorporated in most population research surveys, are extensively used without much consideration as to their reliability. The reliability of responses to such questions need to be critically examined (particularly in the context of developing societies) for two basic reasons. First, it has often been pointed out that in societies in which people, in general, consider the number of children to be determined by nature, spirits, or God, the question of ideal family size might be meaningless. Second, it is also pointed out that the respondents, when furnishing answers to the question on desired family size, tend to rationalize the number of children already born or living.

This paper is an attempt to evaluate the reliability (usefulness) of information on desired family size. Utilizing data from the Nepal Fertility Survey, which was recently carried out at the national level in Nepal, this paper tests several hypotheses concerning the issue. The results show that the information provided by questions on desired family size in Nepal need to be interpreted with caution but nevertheless can be of use in population analysis.

2. Planning and Change in Nepal: The Sixth Five-Year Plan

*DURKIN-LONGLEY, Maureen (Columbia) INDIGENOUS MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE PLANNING IN NEPAL. Health care planners in Nepal face the enormous task of extending primary care to 14 million people. The chief barriers to this task are: (a) an acute shortage of trained medical person, (b) the fact that over 90% of the country's population reside in rural areas where doctors prefer not to live, (c) the expense of foreign pharmaceuticals, and (d) a degree of cultural resistance to foreign medicine. Recently, health planners have begun to appreciate indigenous medical systems as a critical resource and a solution to these barriers.
Attempts to utilize indigenous medicine in national health care in Nepal have been limited to absorption of the healers of one system (ayurveda) into the government health care bureaucracy. On the basis of observations of ayurveda practiced in government and private settings, this paper points out the negative consequences of this strategy. It then provides information on what the ayurvedic system now offers in the private sector and its unplanned mutual interaction with modern medicine. Finally, it suggests some alternative interventions which would preserve the positive aspects of the practices of indigenous healers, alter only those aspects which are clearly maladaptive, and introduce appropriate innovations.

*SUJAPATI, Krishna (Wisconsin, Madison) POPULATION PROBLEM AND FAMILY PLANNING: A POLICY ISSUE IN NEPAL. National leaders, planners and experts from all disciplines have realized the problem of high population growth in Nepal. All of them are attempting to minimize this problem by extending possible cooperation from their respective disciplines. But still the number of new acceptors of family planning has been fewer than the demographers had estimated would be necessary to lessen this problem. One of the reasons for this slow progress is that many of the couples still do not know the existence of family planning program and those who do know and accept the philosophy of family planning refuse to use contraceptives.

Despite the united efforts of all the disciplines, present achievement of family planning is far below the level of satisfaction. It means, there must be something wrong in the present strategies. Different researchers and experts point out different problems for its slow progress. But, the majority of them place the biggest share of blame on the communicators who could not convince or persuade eligible couples about the possible consequences of unwanted childbirth.

It is clear that there is something wrong in the present strategies of communication. The underlying assumption of this paper is that an effective communication strategy can form a basis through which informative, educational and persuasive messages could be focused to achieve a desired result. It is also believed that the strategy of united effort of all forms of mass media is vital to the success of reaching eligible couples of the country.

The extent and ways in which eligible couples are informed, educated and persuaded about family planning will determine attitudinal climate and their participation which is vital to the success of national population control program.

*DAHAL, Dilli (Hawaii) POPULATION GROWTH, LAND PRESSURE AND CASH CROPS IN A NEPALESE VILLAGE. Much socioeconomic and demographic research conducted in Nepal, based either on micro or macro-level data, basically focuses on the negative impact of population growth and the deteriorating resource situation in Nepal. A lot has been written about what farmers grow in their permanently cultivated fields, but no researchers have paid any serious attention to how Nepalese farmers utilize their marginal or waste land to grow subsistence or cash crops. The complex relationship between population growth and the resource situation has long been debated by social scientists. This paper is an attempt to demonstrate the causality of introducing cash crops like big cardamom (Amomom subia tum) in waste or marginal land in a village in Eastern Nepal. The general paradigm of both Boserup (1965) and Brookfield (1972) is utilized to explain the mechanisms. The paper shows that farmers still have not taken "risk" to grow cardamon in their permanently cultivated fields. It is argued that population growth as well as the favorable market are the leading factors for the cultivation of cardamon in the area and that both the Boserup and the Brookfield models are complementary to each other.

*FOX, Jeff (Wisconsin, Madison) PUBLIC LAND-USE IN NEPAL: A VILLAGE PERSPECTIVE This paper described public land-use in a middle-hills Brahmin-Chhetri village near Gorkha. The demand for and supply of forest products from public lands were quantified and the village's land-use problems discussed in light of this analysis.

Forest product demands were broken down by farm-size groups. These groups were: small farms (.5 ha); medium-size farms (.76-1.25 ha); and large farms (1.26 ha). With regard to demand the major conclusions were: 1) Public lands provide only 28% of the village's total firewood supply but 39% of the supply of small farmers; 2) Tree fodder from public lands provides 35% of the livestock feed on small and medium-size farms during the dry season; 3) Grass fodder from public lands is not important to any farm-size group during any season; 4) Fifty-eight percent of the total time spent grazing livestock is on public lands. Small and medium-size farms spend significantly more time grazing livestock on public lands than large farms.

With regard to supply the major conclusions were: 1) The amount of wood cut on public lands does not presently exceed incremental growth; 2) The amount of tree fodder collected on public lands does not appear to exceed forest productivity; 3) If all the village's livestock are grazed on public lands, stocking rates are 5