



# HIMALAYA, the Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies

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Volume 34 | Number 1

Article 4

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Spring 2014

## Editorial

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### Recommended Citation

Craig, Sienna and Turin, Mark. 2014. Editorial. *HIMALAYA* 34(1).

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/himalaya/vol34/iss1/4>

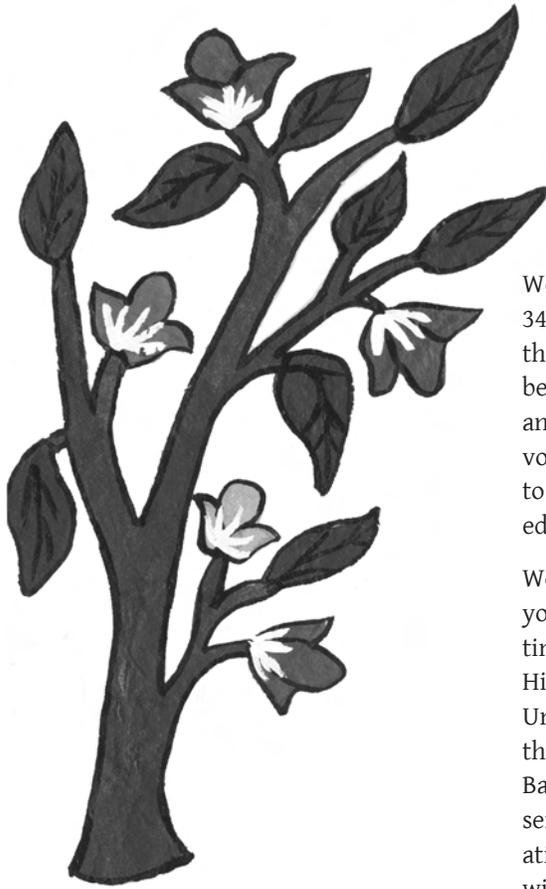


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# Editorial



Above and opposite:  
Detail, *Maithil story painting*.

We are pleased to bring you Volume 34, Number 1 of *HIMALAYA*. This is the second volume of the journal to be published with our new design and expanded content, and the third volume that we have seen through to production since accepting the editorship from Arjun Guneratne.

We were very pleased to have brought you Volume 33, Numbers 1 & 2 in time for the convening of the 3rd Himalayan Studies Conference at Yale University in March 2014. During the conference, we paid tribute to Barbara Brower for her many years of service to the journal and the association, and gathered in conversation with former editors of *HIMALAYA* and the *Himalayan Research Bulletin*. We thank John Metz for facilitating such a lively discussion spanning the more than four decades of this publication's life, and we look forward to sharing highlights of the conversation with editors past and present in a forthcoming issue of the journal.

With this Number, we have officially 'caught up.' Ensuring that the number of the volume (34) aligns with the current calendar year (2014) has been no small feat, and we are grateful to Arjun's efforts in helping us bridge this gap. In addition, without a grant from the Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation, generous and sustained subventions alongside in-kind support from both Macalester College and Dartmouth College, and student assistance from both of these insti-

tutions as well as Yale University, we would not have been able to move to a cycle of two issues per year.

Aesthetically speaking, Volume 34, Number 1 continues where Volume 33, Numbers 1 & 2 left off. The overall redesign of the journal, including this gorgeous cover and the interior gallery pages, reflect the sensibilities of graphic designer Angie Hurlbut and the vision of the Maithil women artists whose work we showcase. Angie's design unites the physical journal, our website [www.himalayajournal.org](http://www.himalayajournal.org) and the archive and submission platform with one consistent look and feel. Forty years of scholarship on the Himalayan region are freely available through the web, and the journal is now simultaneously in print and online.

We could not have brought this issue to press without sustained support from Jacki Betsworth, Erin Porter, Jessica Del Fiacco, and Zoë Withered at the DeWitt Wallace Library at Macalester College, the meticulous work of Doug Tift of the University Press of New England, and the careful printing and fulfillment completed by Maple Press. Hannah McGehee, our Editorial Assistant in Hanover, has remained indispensable in all ways, working with diligence and good cheer. We also welcome Simone D'Luna, our incoming Editorial Assistant. As editors, we accept responsibility for any remaining errors or omissions.



Turning to content, we are grateful for the ongoing collaboration and support from members of our editorial board, our Reviews Editor, Jessica Vantine Birkenholtz at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and to the scholars and artists who have contributed to these pages. We remain committed to expanding the scope of *HIMALAYA* to include more literature and visual arts. In this issue, alongside the work of Nepali women artists, we are very pleased to present the poetry of Tsering Wangmo Dhompa and an excerpt from Thomas Shor's most recent work of creative nonfiction, *The Master Director* (Penguin India, 2014).

Volume 34, Number 1 is marked by a suite of six themed papers focusing on gender in the Himalaya, guest edited and introduced by Shubhra Gururani and Kimberly Berry. The publication of these research contributions brings to fruition a longstanding conversation on the gendering of Himalayan scholarship that began under Arjun's editorship, and we have had the pleasure of working with Kim and Shubhra as this important discussion turned to print.

In addition, we are pleased to include two timely research articles—a look into the social ecologies and mountain economics of *yartsa gunbu*, the eponymous 'summer grass, winter insect,' by Geoff Childs and Namgyal Choedup, and a contribution by Catherine Warner

that addresses Darjeeling's shifting cultivators and colonial legacies. In this issue, we also honor the life and work of several recently deceased Himalayanists: anthropologist Gerald Berreman, linguist Roland Bielmeier, and historian Kumar Pradhan.

We hope that you, our readers and subscribers, enjoy Volume 34, Number 1. As always, we look forward to hearing from you with your thoughts, comments and suggestions. We are delighted to report that you can look forward to receiving Volume 34, Number 2 before the end of this calendar year.

**Sienna Craig and Mark Turin**  
Editors, *HIMALAYA*