

## HIMALAYAN STUDIES CONFERENCE TORONTO 2022



2022 Himalyan Studies Conference logo art by Thinley Gyamtso Lama

Presented with support from: The Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies The Social Sciences and Humanities Reseach Council of Canada The Robert and H.N. Ho Family Foundation Centre for Buddhist Studies The University of Toronto Department of Geography and Planning The University of Toronto Centre for South Asian Studies







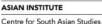


Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada



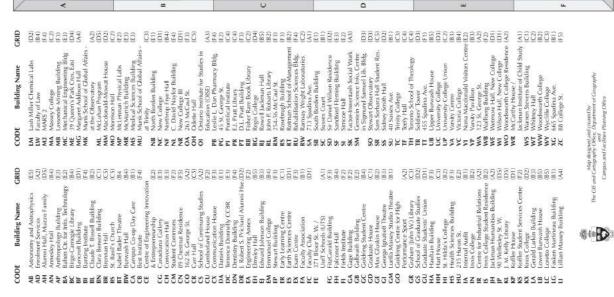


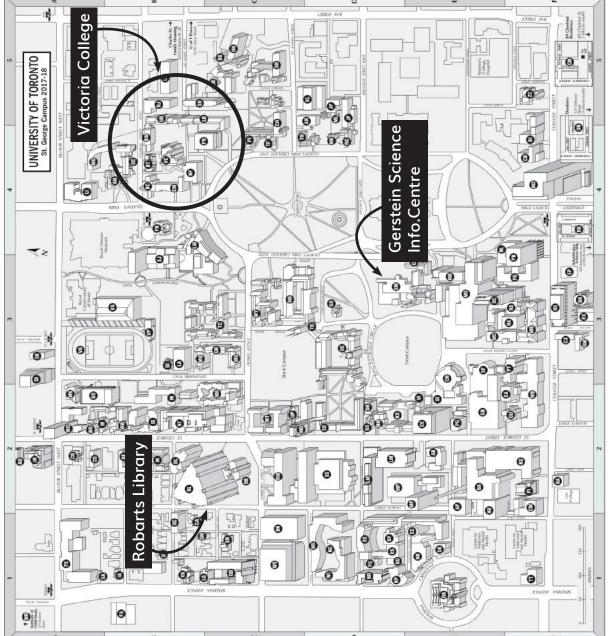


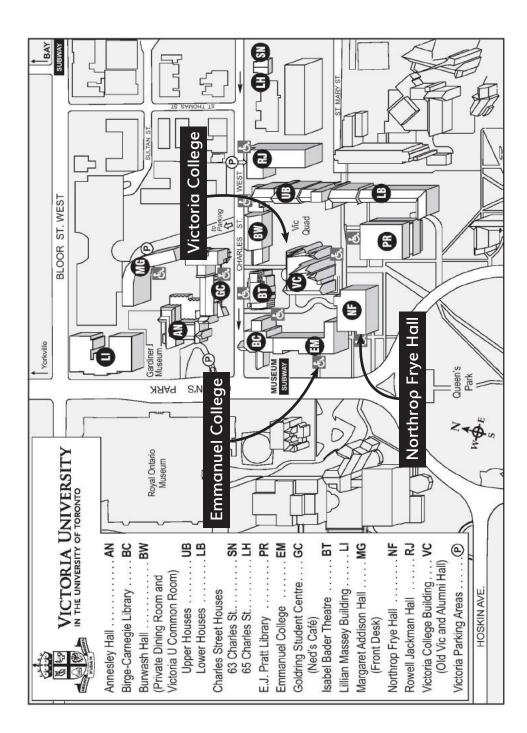


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### **Public Health Policies**

Conference organizers strongly recommend a mask given the continued risk of Covid-19 transmission. All participants will be provided a medical mask in their welcome kit, and additional masks are available at the registration desk.

Since Toronto Public Health and the University of Toronto do not require masks at this time, we will not enforce a mask mandate during the conference. Please read the latest <u>Covid-19 Planning Update</u> for more information on how U of T is planning for a safe, gradual return to campus.

Most venues at the conference have windows that can and will be opened for ventilation, pending weather conditions.

We expect that all conference participants have kept up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations and refrain from attending if feeling ill. The <u>Ontario Self-Assessment</u> provides you with recommendations on what to do next if you are unwell. The registration desk will also stock some testing kits for use on site if needed.

Thank you for your help and cooperation!



### **Printing & Scanning Options**

#### University of Toronto Libraries

Scanning is free and no card is required. You will need a USB key to save your scans.

To print, you can purchase a guest print/copy card. Guest print/copy cards are sold for \$5.00 each and may be purchased from a Guest Card & Cash Loading Station at Robarts Library (130 St George St. 1st floor) and Gerstein Science Information Centre (9 King's College Cir. Main floor).

The cards come with a pre-loaded value of \$4.25 plus a \$0.75 charge for the card. You can load additional funds online or at the Guest Card & Cash Loading Station in cash in increments of \$5.

#### Off Campus

- Print City, 180 Bloor St. #105
- Staples, 375 University Ave.
- First Copy, 61 College St.
- Reflex Print, 1109 Bay St.

### Banks & ATMs

- Scotiabank ATM, Sidney Smith Hall, 100 St George St.
- Scotiabank Branch, 332 Bloor St. W
- RBC ATM, Koffler Student Services Centre, 214 College St.
- RBC ATM, Medical Sciences Building, 1 King's College Cir.
- RBC ATM, Gerstein Science Information Centre, 9 King's College Cir.
- RBC ATM, Hart House, Basement
- BMO ATM, Goldring Student Centre, 150 Charles St. W
- TD Branch, 77 Bloor St. W #110

### **Family Care**

At the conference venue, a single-user accessible washroom with baby change station can be found at Emmanuel College, Floor 1, Room 115 For a full list of changing stations and breast/chest feeding locations on campus:

- <u>familycare.utoronto.ca/childcare/breastfeeding-at-u-of-t/</u>
- <u>familycare.utoronto.ca/childcare/baby-change-stations-at-u-of-t</u>

### **Nearby Food Options**

#### Cafes

- L'Espresso Bar Mercurio, 321 Bloor St. W
- b Espresso Bar, 273 Bloor St. W
- Goldstruck Coffee, 130 Cumberland St.
- Jimmy's Coffee, 166 McCaul St.
- Almond Butterfly Bakeshop & Cafe, 100 Harbord St.

#### Quick/Take Out Restaurants

- Tim Hortons, 246 Bloor St. & 700 University Ave. (Donuts/Sandwiches)
- Fat Bastard Burrito Co., 187 College St. (Burritos)
- Ghazale, 4 Walmer Rd. (Middle Eastern)
- Zaad, 348 Bloor St. (Middle Eastern)
- MeeTYou Cafe, 177 College St. (Chinese/Bubble Tea)
- UT Sushi, 185 College St. (Sushi)
- Tasty's Caribbean Cuisine, 405 Spadina Ave. (Caribbean)
- Magic Noodle Downtown, 93 Harbord St. (Chinese/Noodles)
- Quick Pita Restaurant, 199 College St. (Pitas)
- Pi Co. 1200 Bay St. Unit 4 (Pizza)

### **Local Transportation**

Toronto's public transit options include bus, subway, streetcar, and paratransit services. Public transportation is overseen by the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), and you can find information about routes and payment methods on their website: <u>https://www.ttc.ca/</u>

If you are interested in traveling by bike, Bike Share Toronto offers low-cost oneand three-day passes. For more information see their website: <u>https://bikesharetoronto.com</u>

Toronto has a number of taxi companies including Beck Taxi (416-751-5555) and Co-op Cabs (416-504-2667).

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Registration	<b>Tibetan Art Works at the Royal Ontario Museum</b> (For Pre-Registered Attendees Only)	Opening Ceremony	Keynote Lecture   Weathering the Occupation: Meteorological Wars and Climate Contestations in Kashmir Mona Bhan (Syracuse University)	Conference Dinner
Registration	Field Trip	Welcome	Keynote	Reception
12:00	13:00	15:00-16:00	16:00-17:30	18:00-22:00

	Room VC 101	Room VC 115	Room VC 215	Room NF 006	Room EM 105	Room EM 119/VC 212
Registration 08:00						
Breakfast 08:30-09:00						
Sessions 1 09:00-10:30	Himalayan Linguistic Futures: Language as Expressive Practice, Learning, and Survivance I	Himalayan Art Connecting Asia: The Legacy of John C. Huntington (1937- 2021) I	Migration and Transnational Futures	Postcolonial Nomadic Livelihoods in India and Pakistan	Religion and Culture I: Connecting across Space and Time	Revisiting the Frontier: Colonial Legacies and Lived Realities in Himalayan Border- Worlds I
Coffee Break 10:30-11:00						
Sessions 2 11:00-12:30	Himalayan Linguistic Futures: Language as Expressive Practice, Learning, and Survivance II	Himalayan Art Connecting Asia: The Legacy of John C. Huntington (1937-2021) II	Chronicling Migrants, Refugees, and Exile Communities across the Himalayas	Bhutanese Futures: Tensions, Preparations, and Prospects	Religion and Culture II: Environment and Sacred Geographies	Revisiting the Frontier: Colonial Legacies and Lived Realities in Himalayan Border- Worlds II
Lunch 12:30-14:00						
Sessions 3 14:00-15:30	Pathways of Tourists and Mobile Professionals in the Himalayas	Controversies on Sacred and Impure Blood	Climate Change, Natural Resources and Local Livelihoods in the Himalayas	Envisioning a Just and Plural Climate Change Science for the Himalaya	Representing Himalayan Pasts and Futures through Art and Literature	Pedagogies and Practices for Nepal and Himalayan Studies
Coffee Break 15:30-16:00						
Keynote II 16:00-17:30	Keyno	Keynote Lecture   <b>Taming India's Northernmost Border: Ecologies of Violence, Care, and Resistance in the Himalayas</b> Karine Gagné (University of Guelph)	Northernmost Border: Ecologies of Violenc Karine Gagné (University of Guelph)	<b>ologies of Violence, Care</b> , versity of Guelph)	and Resistance in the Him	ıalayas
Meeting 18:00-19:30			Canadian Himalaya Initiative	alaya Initiative		

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

SATI	SATURDAY, OCTO	OCTOBEF	<b>BER 15</b>			
	Room VC 101	Room VC 115	Room VC 206	Room VC 211	Room VC 212	Room VC 215
Registration 08:00						
Breakfast 08:30-09:00						
Sessions 4 09:00-10:30	Spatiotemporalities and/of Infrastructures in the Indian Himalaya I	Herding in the Himalayan Contemporary I	Values of Education I	Borderlands, Livelihoods, and Identities	Working Across Disciplines: Socioenvironmental and Sociotechnical Interfaces in Himalayan Research	Recasting the Northeastern Himalayas: Rewriting Histories of Lived Experiences
Coffee Break 10:30-11:00						
Sessions 5 11:00-12:30	Spatiotemporalities and/of Infrastructures in the Indian Himalaya II	Herding in the Himalayan Contemporary II	Values of Education II	The Politics of Labor in the Himalayas and Beyond	Re-Indigenizing Research in the Himalayas	Project Himalayan Art: Developing Resources for Integrating Himalayan Culture into Teaching on Asia
Lunch 12:30-14:00						
Sessions 6 14:00-15:30	Democracy and the State in the Himalayas	Disaster, Response, and Reconstruction	Youth Deliberation on Post-Federalism and Political Culture in Nepal	Religion, Markets, and Modernity	Decolonizing Himalayan Studies: How, Where, Why, Who, and When?	Reaching for High Peaks: Mountaineering, Neoliberalism, and Identity
Coffee Break 15:30-16:00						
Meeting 16:00-17:30			ANHS Gen	ANHS General Meeting		
Film 18:00-19:30			Ningv Subasl	<b>Ningwasum</b> Subash Thebe		

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SUN	DAY, OC	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16	9			
	Room VC 101	Room VC 115	Room VC 206	Room VC 211	Room VC 212	Room VC 215
Registration 08:00						
Breakfast 08:30-09:00						
Sessions 7 09:00-10:30	Reckoning with New Uncertainties on a Himalayan Scale I	Himalayan Masculinities I	Flash Ethnography Workshop: Himalayan Conversations	Trade, Exploration, and Coloniality across Himalayan Frontiers	Power, Performance, and Ritual in the Himalayas	The Promises and Perils of Himalayan Infrastructures I
Coffee Break 10:30-11:00						
Sessions 8 11:00-12:30	Reckoning with New Uncertainties on a Himalayan Scale II	Infrastructures of Democracy: The Book Project	HIMALAYA: The Future Role of the ANHS Journal as a Medium for Knowledge Production	Himalayan Histories from Below	Explorations of Identity and Politics in Literature and Poetry	The Promises and Perils of Himalayan Infrastructures II
Lunch 12:30-14:00						

### Room VC 213 **KEYNOTE I**

#### Weathering the Occupation:

Meteorological Wars and Climate Contestations in Kashmir

#### Mona Bhan (Syracuse University)

My talk explores what it might mean to reclaim weather and climate in Kashmir, a contested territory in the Northwestern Himalayas, as geopolitical agents whose effects, force and vitality can challenge and unsettle state-sanctioned boundaries. As Kashmir's climate vulnerabilities intensify because of India's occupational and settler-colonial regimes, how can weather intrusions unravel geopolitics and contest the fiction of national cartographies? To put it differently, how might foregrounding weather, rather than nation or borders, help re-envision Kashmir's futurities beyond the confines of Indian statehood? My talk will track the ways in which everyday weather intrusions can become sites of public contestation even as weather reportage is key to managing everyday political dissidence in Kashmir.

Mona Bhan is Ford-Maxwell Professor of South Asian Studies and Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Syracuse University. Her work focuses on the connections of economic development, humanitarianism, border wars, and counterinsurgencies in Kashmir. More recently, she has also published on human and non-human entanglements in the Anthropocene. Mona Bhan co-founded the Critical Kashmir Studies Collective in 2013.

Mona Bhan's keynote presentation will be followed by a discussion from Galen Murton, Assistant Professor in the Geography Program at James Madison University.

### Room VC 213 **KEYNOTE II**

#### Taming India's Northernmost Border: Ecologies of Violence, Care, and Resistance in the Himalayas

#### Karine Gagné (University of Guelph)

Following the independence of India, the region of Ladakh in the Indian Himalayas became a strategic border area which saw a progressive militarization after wars with China and Pakistan. The manifestation of power associated with the military production of the Indian state in the Himalayas is not just in the spectacular violence of wars and border skirmishes that are taking place in Ladakh, but also in the legacy of the relations – social, material, technocratic – which it entails. In this presentation, I explore the modalities of the ecologies of violence associated with the production of the Indian state in Ladakh. The first consists of the alteration of a landscape where geostrategic interests are undermining existing multispecies relationships. The second consists of the long-standing marginalization of areas that present little strategic interest because they are neither directly contiguous with Pakistan nor with China.

Building on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Ladakh and Zanskar between 2011 and 2022, I examine how these ecologies of violence are met by local populations. First, I discuss how vernacular ideas about care for nonhumans explain a landscape that is changing under both militarization and climate change. Second, I explore how road building and climate change are terrains on which the population of Zanskar, a part of Ladakh that is in the shadow of the border, is claiming its citizenship and resisting state abandonment. I conclude by considering anxieties related to another form of violence that has been operating in Ladakh since the region became a Union Territory in 2019 and which amalgamates neocolonial development, Hindu nationalism, and the absence of legislation to protect local Indigenous populations.

Karine Gagné is Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Guelph. Her research work is based in the Indian Himalayas, where she studies a range of issues, including climate change, ethics of care, human-animal relations, conservation, state production, citizenship, and climate knowledge. She is the author of Caring for Glaciers: Land, Animals, and Humanity in the Himalayas, published by the University of Washington Press, for which she was awarded the James Fisher Prize. She is currently leading two projects funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and which are based in Zanskar, Ladakh, and Spiti.

Pasang Yangjee Sherpa, Assistant Professor of Lifeways in Indigenous Asia at the University of British Columbia, will join us as a discussant for Karine Gagné's keynote.

### Room NF 003 FILM SCREENING

#### Ningwasum

#### Subash Thebe Limbu (Visual Artist and Filmmaker)

Developed from extensive ethnographic research, the science fiction documentary Ningwasum places the Indigenous Yakthung community from eastern Nepal in a futuristic space travel scenario. Ningwasum is centered around two Indigenous astronauts and time travelers from an alternative future, in which a Yakthung nation coexists with other nations and allies that have created their own advanced technology. The film explores concepts of time, memory, and belonging as well as experiences of colonization and cultural erasure. It imagines a future in which Indigenous people have asserted their identities through the use of technology, a creative space that film maker Subash Thebe calls "Adivasi Futurism." Filmed mostly in the Himalayas including the Wasanglung region of eastern Nepal, which is believed to be the shamanic home of the Yakthung people, Ningwasum is spoken entirely in the Yakthung language and weaves oral narratives, animation, and electronic music into its storytelling. It features Subin Limbu and Shanta Nepali as time travelers from the future.

Subash Thebe Limbu is a Yakthung visual artist based in Kathmandu, Nepal and London, United Kingdom. Working with film, sound, performance, and painting, he draws on science and speculative fiction to address Indigenous struggles resulting from the effects of colonization and climate change. Subash also produces Antariksa, a series of podcasts that explores current socio-political issues in Nepal and the Himalayan region.

Subash graduated with an MA in Fine Art from Central Saint Martins at the University of the Arts London (2016), where he received an UAL Vice Chancellors International Scholarship. He also holds a BA in Fine Art from Middlesex University and an Intermediate in Fine Art from Lalit Kala Campus in Kathmandu.

# 100 Queens Park **FIELD TRIP**

#### Royal Ontario Museum

A special pre-conference behind-the-scenes tour of Tibetan art works not presently on public display at the Royal Ontario Museum:

For conference participants in Toronto who may be here earlier than the conference starts on Thursday afternoon, there is an opportunity for a limited number (up to 15 participants) to visit the special objects, thangka paintings, and manuscripts in the Tibetan collections of the Royal Ontario Museum. This special group tour will be led by Sarah Richardson from the Department of Historical Studies at the University of Toronto. It will start at 1pm on Thursday October 13, with guests asked to meet at the ROM staff entrance, 100 Queens Park.

To reserve your spot on the tour, please contact Sarah Richardson at sarah. richardson@utoronto.ca, as soon as possible, and before Monday October 10 at 5pm.

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

### REGISTRATION 12:00

Room VC 213 WELCOME & KEYNOTE I 15:00-17:30

Weathering the Occupation: Meteorological Wars and Climate Contestations in Kashmir Mona Bhan (Syracuse University)

Room VC 112

**RECEPTION** 18:00-22:00

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

REGISTRATION 08:00

#### BREAKFAST

08:30-9:00

#### SESSION #1

09:00-10:30

Room VC 101

Himalayan Linguistic Futures: Language as Expressive Practice, Learning, and Survivance I

Chair: Mark Turin (University of British Columbia)

Implementation of Linguistic Rights in Nepal Anudeep Dewan (University of British Columbia)

The Oral-Written Interface within Tibetan Buddhism Patrick Dowd (University of British Columbia)

Translanguaging as Transknowledging: Linguistic Practices and Epistemic Diversities in Nepal Bhasha Schools in Nepal Uma Pradhan (University College London), Prem Phyak (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Misframing sacētanā: Epistemic Injustice, Deficit Ideology, and 'Mother Tongue' Education Policy in Nepal Prem Phyak, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

#### Room VC 105 Himalayan Art Connecting Asia: The Legacy of John C. Huntington (1937-2021) I

Chair: Sarah Richardson (University of Toronto)

Lute, Sword, Snake, and Parasol: The Study of Representations of the Four Great Kings in China and its Tibetan Connections Tianshu Zhu (University of Macau)

Deconstructing Buddhism: Exploring Evidence of Early Vajrayāna Practices by the Patola-Śāhi Dynasty Rebecca Twist (Pacific University)

Virupa in the Deccan: Parsing Vajrayana and Nath Sampradaya Legacies at Panhale-Kaji David Efurd (Wofford College)

A Teacher of Enlightenment: Memories of John C. Huntington Kimberly Masteller (The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art)

Room VC 215

#### Migration and Transnational Futures I

Chair: Sienna Craig (Dartmouth College)

Migration and the Future of Aging in Place Geoff Childs (Washington University), Sonam Lama (Independent Architect and Urban Planner)

Transnational Futures: Aspirations of the Lahure Life Sanjay Sharma (National University of Singapore)

From Everest Summiteer to Taxi Driver: Sherpa as a Translocal Himalayan Community Based on International Migration from Nepal to the United States *Ornella Puschiasis (INALCO)* 

Being, Belonging, and Community-Making in Transnational Spaces: A Case Study of Nepali Students as Transient Immigrants in Canada Amrita Gurung (Concordia University)

#### Room NF 006 Postcolonial Nomadic Livelihoods in India and Pakistan

Chair: Verena La Mela (University of Fribourg)

The Impact of Market Exposure on Economic Security and Social Capital: Empirical Evidence from a Pastoral-Nomadic Community in Changthang, Ladakh Adina Ara (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Intersections of Colonialism and Covid-19 within Nomadic Lives: Nation-State Machinations and Pastoralism within the Gujjar and Bakkarwal Tribes of Jammu and Kashmir Afreen Faridi (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

The Land Question of the Himalayas: The Monyul Case in Western Arunachal Pradesh, India Ru-Yu Lin (University of Sussex)

Room EM 105 **Religion and Culture I: Connecting across Space and Time** Chair: Lauren Leve (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill)

Interfaith Veneration of the Virgin Mary in the Himalaya Joseph Evans (Villanova University)

The Divine as Child and Mother Goddess: On the History and Practice of Kunwarikā Devī Worship in the Garhwal Himalayas

Vineet Gairola (Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad), Shubha Ranganathan (Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad))

The Dusshera of Kullu: A Unique 'Site' for the Assimilation of Cultures Sujata Chaudhary (McGill University), Tarun Thakur (Himachal Pradesh University)

Angun Bédang: Religious Revival, Tribal Enlightenment, and Futurities in the Indo-Chinese Borderlands Shweta Krishnan (George Washington University) Room EM 119

## Revisiting the Frontier: Colonial Legacies and Lived Realities in Himalayan Border-Worlds I

Chair: Galen Murton (James Madison University)

Friendship and International Relations in the Himalayas: Bhutan and Beyond Nitasha Kaul (University of Westminster)

Bhutan, Sikkim, and India's 'Mongolian Fringe' Swati Chawla (O.P. Jindal Global University)

The Ghost of the Disappeared Tibetan State: How Tawang became a Flashpoint in China-India Border Disputes Dibyesh Anand (University of Westminster)

A New Monastic Geographicity? Buddhist Tourist Circuits in the Indian Himalaya Swargajyoti Gohain (Ashoka University)

**COFFEE BREAK** 10:30-11:00

#### SESSION #2

11:00-12:30

#### Room VC 101

#### Himalayan Linguistic Futures: Language as Expressive Practice, Learning, and Survivance II

Chair: Prem Phyak (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Language Shaming among Ethnic Minoritized Students and Teachers in Nepali Schools Pramod Sah (The Open University)

Multiple Conceptualizations of Tibetan Languages in Chone Bendi Tso (University of British Columbia)

Glossaries for the Gods and Other Users: The Newar Online Dictionary Project Christoph Emmrich (University of Toronto)

Digital Libraries of the Himalayas: Forms and Politics of Knowledge Production Aarjav Chauhan (University of Toronto), Robert Soden (University of Toronto)

#### Room VC 105 Himalayan Art Connecting Asia: The Legacy of John C. Huntington (1937-2021) II

Chair: Sarah Richardson (University of Toronto)

Lessons from the Field: Considerations for the Future of Himalayan Art History Kerry Lucinda Brown (Savannah College of Art and Design)

Marking Impermanence: The Life of the Object in Sonam Dolma Brauen's Conceptual Art Sarah Magnatta (University of Denver)

Temples of Local Color: Representations of Taiwanese Identity Christina Wei-Szu Burke Mathison (Ohio State University)

Sometimes Legends Are True: Reflecting on John Huntington's "Buddhist Art, Theory, and Development" Seminar Almost Two Decades Later Sarah Richardson (University of Toronto)

#### Room VC 215 Chronicling Refugees, Exile Communities, and Divided Families across the Himalayas

Chair: Carole McGranahan (University of Colorado Boulder)

The Career Choices of Nepalese Migrants' Children in Japan Masako Tanaka (Sophia University)

The Nepali Diaspora and Housing Politics in the U.S. Andrew Nelson (University of North Texas)

The Meaning of Housing and Land Ownership for Bhutanese-Nepali Refugees in the United States: A Creative Non-Fiction Approach to Storytelling about Refugees and Home *Kathryn Stam (SUNY Polytechnic Institute)* 

A Refugee Forever: Bhutanese Refugees in Camps at the End of Resettlement Lopita Nath (University of the Incarnate Word)

The Chronicles of Exile: A Generational Perspective of a Tibetan Community-in-Exile Swati Condrolli (Panjab University)

#### Room NF 006 Bhutanese Futures: Tensions, Preparations, and Prospects

Chair: Ariana Maki (University of Virginia)

A Case Study on Climate Change and its Effects on Himalayan Nations Sonam Deki (Royal University of Bhutan)

Facing Time and Change: A Case Study of Sumthrang Monastery in Central Bhutan Sonam Nyenda (University of Virginia)

Impacts of Nationalism and Regional Influences on the Political Transitions of Bhutan and Nepal Deki Peldon (Royal University of Bhutan)

Educating for a Bhutanese Future: Examining Educational Dimensions of Bhutanese Expatriate Life in New York Matthew Robinson (University of Virginia)

Room EM 105 **Religion and Culture II: Environment and Sacred Geographies** Chair: Frances Garrett (University of Toronto)

"The Gods Must Be Angry:" A Study of Sacred Geography, Buddhist Belief, Environmental Implications in the Langtang Valley, Nepal Ananta Hallahan (Rangjung Yeshe Institute)

Surroundings and Agro-Pastoralist Harmonizing with the Help of Buddhist Ritual Practices and Local Deities' Offerings in the Highland Settlement of Zangrak (Kermi) Village in Northwestern Nepal Sagar Lama (ICIMOD)

Himalayan Futures Between Religion and the Environment: The Case of the Boat on the Buddhist Sacred Lake Lauren Leve (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill)

Sacred Trees and Chaityas: How an Old and New Worldview Meet Dmytro Markov (A. Yu. Krymskyi Institute of Oriental Studies)

#### Room EM 119 Revisiting the Frontier: Colonial Legacies and Lived Realities in Himalayan Border-Worlds II

Chair: Arjun Sharma (KU Leuven)

Geographies of Securitization across Himalayan Borderlands Nadine Plachta (University of Toronto)

Apportioning Scarcity and Abundance in Dolpo Geographies Logan Emlet (Yale University)

Becoming a "Revenue Village:" Colonial Frontier-Making and its Legacies in a Himalayan Borderland Community Arjun Sharma (KU Leuven)

Infrastructural Affects: Making Territories with Roads and Towns across Himalayan Frontiers Galen Murton (James Madison University)

#### LUNCH

12:30-14:00

#### SESSION #3

14:00-15:30

#### Room VC 101

Pathways of Tourists and Mobile Professionals in the Himalayas

Chair: Roger Norum (University of Oulu)

Alternative Community in the Himalayas: 'Responsible Community' or Tourists with a Twist? Yadav, Vijalakshmi (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Tourism, Climate Change, and COVID-19: A Case Study from Mustang, Nepal Emily Amburgey (University of British Columbia), Tashi Gurung (Arizona State University), Sienna Craia (Dartmouth College)

Tourism Livelihoods and Socioecological Adaptation on Nepal's Tamang Heritage Trail Ian Bellows (Cornell University)

The Chronopolitics of Expatria: Other(ed) Time in a Community of Mobile Professionals Roger Norum (University of Oulu)

#### Room VC 105 Controversies on Sacred and Impure Blood

Chair: Chiara Letizia (Université du Québec à Montréal), Christoph Emmrich (University of Toronto)

Discussant: Janice Boddy (University of Toronto)

Once and Future Bleeding: Women, Priests, and Texts in Newar Preemptive Menstrual Rites Christoph Emmrich (University of Toronto)

Blood as Conceptualized in Menstrual Education in Nepal Solenne Hamon-Fafard (Concordia University)

Blood Sacrifice in the Discourse of Judicial Activism in Nepal: The Case of Gadhimai mela Chiara Letizia (Université du Québec à Montréal)

Blood is for Demons: The Rise of Daivik Shakti Neo-Shamanism in Pokhara Marie Lecomte-Tilouine (CNRS)

Room VC 215

## Climate Change, Natural Resources, and Local Livelihoods in the Himalayas

Chair: Dinesh Paudel (Appalachian State University)

Himalayan Environmental Crisis: Comparing THED and Climate Change John Metz (Northern Kentucky University)

Climate Change and Environmental Issues: A Case Study of Himachal Pradesh (India) Jagbir Singh (Swami Shraddhanand College)

Diverging Viewpoints on Cordyceps Harvesting and its Ecological Impacts: A Q-Method Study and Survey of Cordyceps Harvesters in the Himalayas Suraj Upadhaya (Iowa State University)

What Does Natural Farming in the Indian Himalayas Tell Us About Post-Colonial Agriculture Science Research and Extension? Syed Shoaib Ali (Ambedkar University)

Cannabis Futures in the Indian Himalayas Prasenjeet Tribhuvan (Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur)

#### Room NF 006 Roundtable: Envisioning a Just and Plural Climate Change Science for the Himalaya

Chair: Constanza Rampini (San José State University)

Participants: Ritodhi Chakraborty (University of Canterbury), Andrea Nightingale (University of Oslo), Hemant Ojha (University of Canberra), Ornella Puschiasis (INALCO), Pasang Yangjee Sherpa (University of British Columbia)

Room EM 105

Representing Himalayan Pasts and Futures through Art and Literature Chair: Sarah Richardson

Shift in Visions: Studies of Early Photography in the Hill Kingdoms of Punjab Province and Adjacent Areas 1860-1930 Ankana Sen (Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad)

Nepali Climate Fiction and Future-Making Evan Tims (Henry Luce Foundation)

Where is Shangri-La? Imagining Kathmandu in Film Dikshya Karki (Heidelberg University)

Circulating Desires: Tourism, Instagram, and Landscapes Photography in Kumaon (India) Damini Pant (University of California San Diego)

#### Room VC 212 Roundtable: Pedagogies and Practices for Nepal and Himalayan Studies

Chair: Galen Murton (James Madison University)

Participants: Heather Hindman (University of Texas Austin), Shangrila Joshi (Evergreen State College), Todd Lewis (College of the Holy Cross), Ariana Maki (University of Virginia), Carole McGranahan (University of Colorado Boulder), Andrew Quintman (Wesleyan University)

#### COFFEE BREAK

15:30-16:00

#### **KEYNOTE II**

16:00-17:30

Room VC 213 Taming India's Northernmost Border: Ecologies of Violence, Care, and Resistance in the Himalayas Karine Gagné (University of Guelph)

#### MEETING

18:00-19:30

Room N 108, North Building, Munk School for Public Policy and Global Affairs, 1 Devonshire Place Canadian Himalaya Initiative

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

REGISTRATION 08:00

#### BREAKFAST

08:30-9:00

#### SESSION #4

09:00-10:30

Room VC 101

**Spatiotemporalities and/of Infrastructures in the Indian Himalaya I** Chair: Rohit Negi (Ambedkar University)

Negotiating the 'Waterless' City: Discursive, Situated, and Embodied Dimensions of Water Crises in Shimla, India Yaffa Truelove (University of Colorado Boulder), Naomi Hazarika (University of Colorado Boulder)

Temporal Tunnels: Exploring Shifting Spatiotemporal Rhythms at the Rohtang Tunnel Anu Sabhlok (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research), Kesang Thakur (Himachal Pradesh University)

City on a Hill: A Historical Spatial Ecology of Water Scarcity in Shimla Ankur Parashar (Ambedkar University)

Dam(n)ed Landscape: Large-scale Infrastructures and Disrupted Ecosystems in the Himalaya Ashim Kumar Manna (KU Leuven)

Room VC 115

#### Herding in the Himalayan Contemporary: Continuity, Change, Uncertainty, Possible Futures I

Chair: Austin Lord (Cornell University)

Herding Morphologies in the Langtang Valley: Disaster, Climate Change, and Unsettled Moral Ecologies Austin Lord (Cornell University)

Roots and Routes of Pastoral Displacement: A Multiscale Analysis of the Genesis and Implementation of the Grazing Ban in Sikkim, Eastern Himalaya Rashmi Singh (Ambedkar University Delhi)

Agencies of the Present: Landscape-Making and the Herders of Lower Mustang, Nepal Dane Carlson (Principia College)

From Shelter to Touristic Site: The 'Gothstay' Concept and Changing Notions of Yak and Yak Herding in the Nepal Himalaya Jiban Mani Poudel (Tribhuvan University)

Room VC 206 Values of Education I

Chair: Karen Valentin (Aarhus University)

Values of 'Quality Education?' Blurred Public-Private Boundaries in State-Run Schooling in Nepal

Uma Pradhan (University College London)

Actors and Networks in the 'Aidland': An Analysis of the Value of Interpersonal Relations in Aid Work in the Nepali Educational Sector Rajeshwar Acharya (Aarhus University)

Complexities of Locating the "Community" in Some Urban "Community Schools" Shyam Kunwar (Martin Chautari), Pratyoush Onta (Martin Chautari), Devendra Uprety (Martin Chautari)

#### Room VC 211 Borderlands, Livelihoods, and Identities

Chair: Verena La Mela (University of Fribourg)

Reimagening the Paradise Tehneet Abbas (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Postcolonial Himalayas: Complex Indigeneities and the Discourse of Competing Victimhoods in Kashmir Nitasha Kaul (University of Westminster)

Partition of India: Fractured Narratives of Divided Families in Ladakh, India Sonam Joldan (University of Ladakh)

Struggle for Existence in the Era of Spatial Expansion: A Case Study of the Endangered Umla Village in the Trans-Himalayan Region of Ladakh Skalzang Dolma (Central University of Punjab)

Geopolitical Multilayers of Cross Border Trade: Borders and Regions of Northeast India Jublee Handique (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Room VC 212

## Roundtable: Working Across Disciplines: Socioenvironmental and Sociotechnical Interfaces in Himalayan Research

Chair: Katie Oven (Northumbria University), Discussant: Karen Seto (Yale University)

Participants: Jeevan Baniya (Social Science Baha), Anudeep Dewan (University of British Columbia), Nick Rosser (Durham University), Surya Narayan Shrestha (NSET), Mukta Tamang Lama (Tribhuvan University)

#### Room VC 215 Recasting the Northeastern Himalayas: Rewriting Histories of Lived Experiences

Chair: Shangrila Joshi (Evergreen State College)

Vulnerability and Resilience: Climate Change and the 'Deep Ecology' of Zos in Northeast India Samuel Ngaihte (Manipur University)

Urban, Rural, and the Himalayan Hills: Landscape Connectivity and Governance Michael Lunminthang Haokip (Ambedkar University)

Climate Change and its Impact on Eastern Himalayan Yaks Focusing on Sikkim Sanghamitra Choudhury (Bodoland State University)

Understanding the Creation of Migrant Borderland Geographies in the Center Shivangi Kaushik (University of Oxford)

### COFFEE BREAK

10.30-11.00

#### SESSION #5

11:00-12:30

#### Room VC 101

Spatiotemporalities and/of Infrastructures in the Indian Himalaya II Chair: Anu Sabhlok (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research)

What's Your Status? Water Infrastructure in Urban Mountain Towns Rinan Shah (Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment)

The Seasonal Town: Emergent Spatiotemporalities in the Urbanizing Himalaya Rohit Negi (Ambedkar University)

Fixity, Friction, and Temporality: Infrastructure in the Eastern Himalayan Town of Kalimpong Anisa Bhutia (Tata Institute of Social Sciences)

Walled Anticommons within Overused Commons: A Dual Tragedy in Spiti Valley, India Surajit Chakravarty (Indian Institute of Technology Delhi)

Room VC 115

#### Herding in the Himalayan Contemporary: Continuity, Change, Uncertainty, Possible Futures II

Chair: Dane Carlson (Principia College)

When Climate Precarity Meets Political Precarity: A Case of Tibetan Refugee Nomads from Ladakh, India Tenzin Yangkey (University of Arizona)

Hired Herding and the Future of Pastoralism: A Case from the Western Himalayas Aayushi Malhotra (BITS-Pilani)

A Multispecies Agropastoral Ecology Facing Disembeddedness in Limi, Nepal Tara Bate (University of Zürich)

Room VC 206 Values of Education II Chair: Karen Valentin (Aarhus University)

Our Land, Our Life: The 'Value' of a Holistic Educational Initiative in Uttarakhand Mohini Gupta (University of Oxford)

What is Happening to/in Public Schools during the Post-2015 Transition? Pratyoush Onta (Martin Chautari), Lokranjan Parajuli (Martin Chautari), Devendra Uprety (Martin Chautari), Rukh Gurung (Martin Chautari)

Literacy Development in the Himalayas as a Social Change Mark Condra (Tribhuvan University)

#### Room VC 211 The Politics of Labor in the Himalayas and Beyond

Chair: Verena La Mela (University of Fribourg)

The Future? A Phenomenological Approach to Understanding the Dialectics of Caste and Sanitation Workers in Darjeeling and Pokhara Amit Balmiki (Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad)

Transforming Caste into Networks for Business Opportunities: A Case Study from the Meat Industry in Nepal Kanako Nakagawa (Otemon Gakuin University)

Heat in the Anthropocene: Living, Laboring, and Dying as Migrant Workers in the Middle East Nirvan Pradhan (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Socio-Economic Transformations and Cloth Formation: A Case Study of Dhaka Cloth in the Singalila Borderlands Yuko Takamichi (Kyoto University)

Room VC 212

#### **Re-Indigenizing Research in the Himalayas**

Chair: Amelia Hall (Naropa University), Anne Parker (Naropa University)

Restorative Approaches to Interspecies Relations in the Himalayas Amelia Hall (Naropa University)

TBA Natalie Avalos (University of Colorado Boulder)

Attending to Sacred Place through the Lens of Indigenous Science Anne Parker (Naropa University)

Storytelling on the Environment: An Alternative Approach to Research, Knowledge Exchange, and Community Building Jenny Bentley (University of Zurich), Minket Lepcha (Filmmaker)

Indigenous Knowledge, Gender, and Climate Change in Nepal Sangita Thebe Limbu (University College London)

#### Room VC 215

#### Roundtable: Project Himalayan Art: Developing Resources for Integrating Himalayan Culture into Teaching on Asia

Chair: Elena Pakhoutova (Rubin Museum of Modern Art), Karl Debreczeny (Rubin Museum of Modern Art)

Participants: Kerry Lucinda Brown (Savannah College of Art and Design), Annabella Pitkin (Lehigh University), Andrew Quintman, (Wesleyan University)

#### LUNCH

12:30-14:00

#### **SESSION #6**

14:00-15:30

#### Room VC 101 Democracy and the State in the Himalayas

Chair: Nilanjana Sen (University of Melbourne)

The Prospects for Indian Style Hindutva in Nepal Richard Bownas (University of Northern Colorado)

Shrinking Political Spaces of Regional Parties in Assam's Sixth Schedule Areas Michael Islary (Institute for Social and Economic Change)

Digging up the Dirt: Democracy and the Local News Media in a Border Town Kristen Zipperer (Harvard University)

Crafting Indigenous Futures through 'Traditional Democracy:' Tharu Activism in Contemporary Western Nepal Tatsuro Fujikura (Kyoto University)

'Self-Manifestation:' Understanding Young People's Blood Donation Practices and Ideas of Distinction in Small Town Shimla in North India Nilanjana Sen (University of Melbourne)

#### Room VC 115 Disaster, Response, and Reconstruction

Chair: Milan Shrestha (Arizona State University

Aftermath: The Long-Term Sustainability of Civic Technology after Disasters Shreyasha Paudel (University of Toronto), Robert Soden (University of Toronto)

COVID-19 and Technological Interventions in Nepal: The Mobilization of Civic Technologies as a Rapid Response to the Pandemic Maya Daurio (University of British Columbia)

Landscape(s) of Resilience: Himalayan Youth Mobilization Initiatives During Disasters Adrian Ashaf Khan (University of Toronto)

Volunteering as Empathy-Based Activities during the Nepal 2015 Earthquake Sanae Ito (Kyoto University)

Room VC 206

#### Roundtable: Youth Deliberation on Post-Federalism and Political Culture in Nepal

Chair: Thomas O'Neill (Brock University)

Participants: Sandhya Acharya (Mahila Pahila), Samrat Katwal (Hands On Institute), Pradip Pariyar (Samata Foundation), Bijaya Poudel (Hands On Institute)

Room VC 211 **Religion, Markets, and Modernity** Chair: Todd Lewis (College of the Holy Cross)

Monasteries, Monks, and Markets in Spiti: The Political Economy of Social Change in India's Himalayan Borderlands Aniket Alam (Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad)

Nepal's Attempts to Regulate the Movement of Children to Monasteries in an Era of Child Rights Deborah Parkes (University of Ottawa)

"The Marriage that Never Happened:" The Reconstitution of Religion in Modernizing Kinnaur Aman Kant Panta (IIIT Hyderabad), Alam Aniket (IIIT Hyderabad)

Lamenting Food: Visions of Cultural Change Among the Brogpa of Ladakh Aleksandar Bogdanov (Sofia University), Proletina Robova (Sofia University)

#### Room VC 212

## Roundtable: Decolonizing Himalayan Studies: How, Where, Why, Who, and When?

Chair: Ritodhi Chakraborty (University of Canterbury)

Participants: Mabel Denzin Gergan (Vanderbilt University), Mark Turin (University of British Columbia), Pasang Yangjee Sherpa (University of British Columbia), Shangrila Joshi (Evergreen State College)

Room VC 215

Reaching for High Peaks: Mountaineering, Neoliberalism, and Identity

Chair: Roger Norum (University of Oulu)

The Sherpa Vocation in Nepal Gulati Medhavi (Panjab University)

Climbing for Credit: Reciprocity, Neoliberalism, and Wage Structures in the Himalayan Mountaineering Industry Young Hoon Oh (University of California Riverside)

The Whiteness of Mount Everest Peter Hansen (Worcester Polytechnic Institute)

The Construction of Sherpa Identity in Darjeeling: A Sociological Study of the Sherpas of Lamba Dara Busty Rinzing Ongmu Sherpa (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

#### COFFEE BREAK

15:30-16:00

#### MEETING

16:00-17:30

Room VC 213 ANHS General Meeting

#### FILM SCREENING

18:00-19:30

Room NF 003 Ningwasum Subash Thebe Limbu (Visual Artist and Filmmaker)

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

BREAKFAST 08:30-9:00

SESSION #7

09:00-10:30

Room VC 101 **Reckoning with New Uncertainties on a Himalayan Scale I** Chair: Austin Lord (Cornell University)

Cryospheric Reckonings: Climate Injustice, Epistemological Entanglement, and Responsible Climate Science in the Wake of the Langtang Disaster Austin Lord (Cornell University)

Floods, Distributed Agency, and Speculative Futures of the Terai Dane Carlson (Principia College)

Unruly Mountains: Hydropower Assemblages and Geological Surprises in the Indian Himalayas Saumya Vaishnava (Pennsylvania State University)

#### Room VC 115 **Himalayan Masculinities**

Chair: Ritodhi Chakraborty (University of Canterbury)

State, Science, and Engineering in the Tarai: Hegemonic Masculinity and Race Reworked 'from within' in Nepal, 1880s-2010s Janwillem Liebrand (Utrecht University)

"Sitting:" Understanding Upper Caste Youth Agency on a University Campus in the Small Town of Shimla in North India Nilanjana Sen (University of Melbourne)

Contoured Masculinities: Exploring the Mutual Construction of Gender and Infrastructure on Himalayan Roads Anu Sabhlok (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research)

Gettin' Drunk and Hanging Out at State Stadium: An Ethnography of Men-of-Middle-Adulthood in Dimapur, Nagaland Matthew Wilkinson (Australian Government Department of Education)

"Who can save drowning men?" Transforming Relationships with Alcohol, Intergenerational Masculinities, and Place-Making in Uttarakhand Ritodhi Chakraborty (University of Canterbury)

Room VC 206

**Workshop:** Flash Ethnography Workshop: Himalayan Conversations Chair: Sienna Craig (Dartmouth College), Carole McGranahan (University of Colorado Boulder)

Participants: Emily Amburgey (University of British Columbia), Ishani Dasgupta (University of Pennsylvania), Anudeep Dewan (University of British Columbia), Aidan Seale-Feldman (University of Notre Dam), Tenzing Wangdak (UC Irvine)

#### Room VC 211 Trade, Exploration, and Coloniality across Himalayan Frontiers

Chair: Stefan Lueder (Humboldt University Berlin)

Travel Writings and the Colonial Representation of 'Others:' Society, Religion, and Customs in Early Western Travel Writings on Ladakh Fida Hussain (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Guiding the Way: Local Knowledge and Colonial Representations of Himalayan Frontiers Suraj Kushwaha (Ashoka University)

A Study of the Transportation Routes between the Tibetan Kingdom and ban 'jag nag po Sanggey Tondrup (Tibet University)

Room VC 212 **Power, Performance, and Ritual in the Himalayas** Chair: Chiara Letizia (Université du Québec à Montréal)

Reading Sovereignty as a Theme in the Life of the 10th Shamarpa Lara Braitstein (McGill University)

The Tibetan Cult to the Lords of the Earth in Nepal: The Case of the srid pa'i Bon and Other Bon Rites Propitiating Stellar and Elemental Deities Known as the sa bdag Marc Des Jardins (Concordia University)

Gods, Ghosts, and Godlings: Some Implications of the 'Divine Hierarchy' in the Central Himalayas John Leavitt (Université de Montréal)

Power in Performance, Power of Performance: Reflecting on the Evolution of Doing Fieldwork among Tibetan Opera Artists over the Last Three Decades Isabelle Henrion-Dourcy (Université Laval)

### Room VC 215 The Promises and Perils of Himalayan Infrastructures I

Chair: Katharine Rankin (University of Toronto)

China's Trans-Himalaya Project: A Tibetan Perspective Tashi Yangzom (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Toward the Dust: Life around the Un-dead Infrastructures of the Indo-Nepal Border *Prince Tomar (Tallinn University)* 

"Riding Public Vehicles is Like Fighting in the Battlefield:" Experiences of Young Women Users of Urban Public Transportation Systems in the Kathmandu Valley Sujata Thapa-Bhattarai (University of Toronto)

Spatial Congestion in an Urban Town of Darjeeling: A Sociological Perspective Rubina Thapa (North Eastern Hill University)

#### **COFFEE BREAK**

10:30-11:00

#### **SESSION #8**

11:00-12:30

Room VC 101

Reckoning with New Uncertainties on a Himalayan Scale II Chair: Austin Lord (Cornell University)

Insurgent Geologies and Sustaining Hope in Uncertain Times Mabel Gergan (Vanderbilt University)

Glacial Outburst Flood Risks and Societal Predicament *Milan Shrestha (Arizona State University)* 

Rediscovering and Re-connecting the Old Rivulets and Water Bodies of Boudha, Kathmandu Valley Minket Lepcha (Filmmaker)

#### Room VC 115 Infrastructures of Democracy: The Book Project

Chair: Katharine Rankin (University of Toronto), Discussant: Mukta Tamang Lama (Tribhuvan University)

Roads, Political Imaginaries, and State Building in Nepal Katharine Rankin (University of Toronto)

Changing Dynamics of Labor Relations and Public Dynamics on Road Building in the Lowlands of Morang District, Nepal Lagan Rai (Tribhuvan University)

Road Development and Dodges of Contracting Practices in Dolakha, Nepal Shyam Kunwar (Martin Chautari)

Road Imaginaries and Road Building Modalities in Nepal: An Ethnographic Exploration of Everyday Administration in Mugu District Tulasi Sigdel (Nepal Administrative Staff College), Pushpa Hamal (Independent Researcher)

Room VC 206

# Roundtable: HIMALAYA: The Future Role of the ANHS Journal as a Medium for Knowledge Production

Chair: Stefan Lueder (Humboldt University Berlin)

Participants: Mona Bhan (Syracruse University), David Citrin (University of Washington), Sienna Craig (Dartmouth College), Ishani Dasgupta (University of Pennsylvania), Michael Heneise (Arctic University of Norway), Jeevan Sharma (University of Edinburgh), Mark Turin (University of British Columbia)

Room VC 211

#### Himalayan Histories from Below

Chair: Verena La Mela (University of Fribourg)

Re-analyzing the Nepali State: An Adivasi Janajati Perspective from Eastern Nepal Abhijit Dihidar (Goreswar College)

"Glorious History of Bishwakarma Caste:" Explicating Historically Neglected People of Nepal Tek Biswokarma (Independent Scholar)

Cultural Safety under the Shadows of Dominant Hindu Traditions in the Himalayan Foot Hills

Drona Rasali (University of British Columbia)

"From Gallis and Nanis to the Allies of Halin:" The Footsteps of the Global Newah Movement Daya Shakya (World Newah Organization)

#### Room VC 212 Explorations of Identity and Politics in Literature and Poetry

Chair: Pushpa Acharya (University of Toronto)

Buddhist Values and Practices as "Everyday Nationalism:" A Case Study of Vegetarianism, Non-Sectarianism, and Pilgrimage in Shabkar's (1781-1851) Autobiography Rachel Pang (Davidson College)

En-gendering gling sgrung: Representation of Women and Social Mobility in the Gesar Epic Kunkyab Pasang (Sarah College for Higher Tibetan Studies)

Local Environments and Transnational Modernities in the Auto/biographies of Adzom Drukpa Learned Foote (Rice University)

Cultural Memories of the 6th Dalai Lama in Contemporary Tawang Jamphel Soepa (Dzongsar Khyentse Chokyi Lodro Institute)

Room 215

#### The Promises and Perils of Himalayan Infrastructures II

Chair: Sujata Thapa-Bhattarai (University of Toronto)

The Promise of Roads: An Exploration of the Political Economy of Infrastructures along India's Northwestern Borders Priya Bose (Indian Institute of Technology Delhi)

Check Dams, Resource Management, and Socioeconomic Development in the Shivalik Hills of India Elizabeth Chacko (George Washington University), Rabir Kang (Kennesaw State University)

Roads, Futures, and Environmental Precarity in the Eastern Himalayas Suchismita Das (Ahmedabad University)

The Promises and Perils of Highland Infrastructures: A Comparative Perspective of the Eastern and Western Himalayas Archana Pathak (Indian Institute of Technology Mandi)

LUNCH 12:30-14:00