

Himalayas and Beyond: Cultural, Religious and Social Research in Tibet, Bhutan, Nepal and Amdo



Tuesday 25 of September 2012
10:15 a.m.-17:15 p.m.
FREE ENTRANCE

Tibetan cultural regions, surrounded by mountains "shining as the many riches of gods and men", hold fascinating cultures and religions. In this conference, researchers of different fields present several aspects of Tibetan society: languages, history, literature, religion, political Diaspora and development.

After each presentation, there will be some minutes for questions and discussion. Rare shamanic ritual objects of Tamang jankhris will be shown to the audience at the end of the event.

The conference is opened to all the interested. Previous studies on the topic are not mandatory. It is also possible to follow only one section, or two sections. By request, students can obtain credits writing a study diary or essay on the topics of the conference.

MORNING SECTION IN HALL 13

Helsinki's University Main Building,
new side in Fabianinkatu 33

SECTION I: Language, History and Literature

● 10:15
Prof. *Juha Janhunen*,
University of Helsinki, East Asian Studies
Tibet: regional, historical, cultural and linguistics aspects.

● 11:00
PhD *Riika Virtanen*, University of Helsinki,
South Asian Studies
Artists and society in modern Tibetan literature

● 11:45-12:00 **Discussion**

LUNCH BREAK: 12:00-13:00

AFTERNOON SECTIONS IN AUDITORIUM XV
Helsinki's University Main Building,
old side in Unioninkatu 34 (Senate square)

SECTION II: Society, Diaspora and Development

● 13:00
MA *Rebecca Frilund*, University of Turku, Geography
Tibetan newcomers in Dharamsala

● 13:45
MA *Päivi Ahonen*, University of Oulu, Education
Strategies of Bhutan in implementing the gross national happiness policies. How is GNH philosophy applied in the context of education for sustainable development

14:30-14:45 COFFEE BREAK (in Auditorium XV)

SECTION III: Religion, Gender and Ethnography

● 14:45
M.Soc.Sc. *Mitra Härkönen*,
University of Helsinki, Study of Religions
Power, agency and Tibetan female monastics

● 15:30
MA *Tiina Hyytiäinen*, University of Helsinki,
East Asian Studies
Amdo Tibetan women - past and present.

● 16:15
MA *Vesa Matteo Piludu*, University of Helsinki,
Study of Religions
The ritual art of the Nepalese Tamang *jhankri* shaman: the altar, the drums, the holy daggers

● 17:00-17:15 **Final discussion and conclusion**



The conference is organized by Society for Northern Ethnography and East Asian Studies of the University of Helsinki.

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