

Notes on contributors

Daniela Berti is a Social anthropologist and researcher at the CNRS (UPR 299 Milieux, Sociétés et Cultures en Himalaya), she has conducted a great deal of research in Himachal Pradesh (Northern India), in particular on the role of village divinities in village matters and electoral stakes in politics. Her recent research focuses on the influence of an organisation linked to Hindu nationalism, which uses a programme aimed at rewriting local history. She is preparing a project on the anthropological study of tribunals and procedures used in Indian courts of justice.

Elisabeth Conzelmann, Dr. phil, Berlin.

After studying social anthropology and comparative religion in Berlin, she has conducted fieldwork on various subjects in Himachal Pradesh (India). Her publications pertain to kinship, marriage, local and urban caste systems, and the anthropology of food. She is presently working on local religion and local history in Himachal Pradesh based on manuscripts in Pahari language and other materials.

Brigitte Luchesi teaches in the Department of Comparative Religion at the University of Bremen, Germany. She is a trained sociologist, historian of religion and social anthropologist working since many years on forms of local religion in the North-Indian state of Himachal Pradesh. She is also doing research on religious practises of Hindu immigrants from South Asia in Germany.

Prof. **William S. ('Bo') Sax**, former managing editor of the EBHR, obtained his PhD at the University of Chicago in 1987, and taught at Harvard University and Christchurch, New Zealand. He is presently Head of the Department of Anthropology at the South Asia Institute in Heidelberg. He is the author of *Mountain Goddess: gender and politics in a Himalayan Pilgrimage* (1991) and *Dancing the Self: personhood and performance in the pandava lila of Garhwal* (2002), and the editor of *The Gods at Play: Lila in South Asia* (1995). He is currently finishing a book about healing and social justice in Garhwal.

Peter Sutherland gained his D.Phil in Cultural Anthropology at Oxford University in 1998 after a first career in architecture and architectural photography. He currently co-directs the International Studies Program at Louisiana State University, USA, where he teaches classes on South Asia, colonialism, diasporas, and globalization. In addition to several published articles and a monograph in preparation on the travelling gods of the

western Himalayas, his more recent research and publications based on fieldwork in Benin and Little Haiti, Miami, also examine religious tropes of movement in the transnational context of the Black Atlantic.

Denis Vidal, an anthropologist, is a Senior Research Fellow at the French Centre for Research in Development (IRD, Paris) and an Associate Research Fellow at the French Centre for South Asian Studies (CEIAS, Paris). He has been teaching at Paris University, EHESS, and INALCO. He worked in Himachal Pradesh in the 1980's and his Phd thesis (1989) is about the cult of local divinities in Himachal Pradesh. He worked more recently on the social history of Rajasthan then on the economic life in the streets of Old Delhi. His present research is about the visual culture of India, from an anthropological perspective.