

Notes on Contributors

Elisabeth Benard is an associate professor in Asian Studies and Religion at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Washington, USA. Her publications include several books and articles on Tantric women and goddesses, among them *Chinnamasta: the Aweful Buddhist and Hindu Tantric Goddess* (Delhi, Motilal Banarsidass, 1994), and the co-edited volume on *Goddesses Who Rule* (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2000). She received the Faculty Global Engagement Award from her university and has lectured extensively in the U.S, Asia and Europe.

Anne de Sales is an anthropologist, who holds the position of Senior Researcher in the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS). Her publications on Nepal include a monograph on an ethnic minority, the Kham-Magar, and numerous articles on shamanic practices and oral literature. Since 1999 her publications have addressed a range of anthropological issues concerning the impact of the Maoist insurrection on rural Nepal.

Hanna Havnevik is professor in History of Religions at the Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, University of Oslo, and chair of the Network for University Cooperation Tibet-Norway. Havnevik is the author of *Tibetan Buddhist Nuns: History, Cultural Norms and Social Reality*, wrote her PhD dissertation on the autobiography of the Tibetan female religious master Jetsun Lochan Rinpoche (1865–1951) and co-edited *Women in Tibet*. Her research interests cover Tibetan religious biographical literature, the social history of Tibetan societies—including gender relations—and contemporary religion in Tibet, the Himalayas and Mongolia.

Theresia Hofer is a social and medical anthropologist trained at the University of Vienna, Brunel University, University College London, and at Tibet University in Lhasa. After her doctoral research on rural primary health care, Tibetan medicine and memories of Communist reforms, Hofer worked as curator of the Bodies in Balance – The Art of Tibetan Medicine exhibition in New York and as a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Oslo on gender and health. She is now a Wellcome Trust Research Fellow at the Institute of

Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oxford researching sign languages and deaf socialities in Tibet.

Sarah H. Jacoby is assistant professor in the Department of Religious Studies at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, USA. She specialises in Tibetan Buddhist studies, gender and sexuality, and Tibetan narrative literature, particularly biography. She is the author of *Love and Liberation: Autobiographical Writings of the Tibetan Buddhist Visionary Sera Khandro* (2014), co-author of *Buddhism: Introducing the Buddhist Experience* (2014), and co-editor of *Buddhism Beyond the Monastery: Tantric Practices and their Performers in Tibet and the Himalayas* (2009).

Francoise Pommaret, is a cultural anthropologist, Director of Research at the CNRS (National Centre for Scientific Research, France) and Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Language and Culture (ILCS), Royal University of Bhutan. Since 1979 she has been working in and on Bhutan and has published numerous scholarly articles and books on different aspects of Bhutanese culture, among them *Bhutan: Mountain Fortress of the Gods* (co-editor and co-author; London, Serindia, 1997); *Bhutan. Tradition and Change* (co-editor and co-author; Leiden, Brill, 2007). She is currently involved in the documentation of the Bhutan cultural atlas www.bhutanculturalatlas.org and is doing research on the interface between deities, local powers and migrations in Bhutan.

Johanna Prien is a Master's student at the Central Asian Seminar at Humboldt University Berlin. After submitting her Bachelor's thesis on ritual specialists in the Tibetan cultural area in 2012 she started the Master's program 'Central Asian Studies' in 2013. Johanna is currently writing her Master's thesis with Prof. Toni Huber as her supervisor, focusing on female ritual specialists in western Bhutan based on her recent and ongoing eight-month long fieldwork in 2015-2016.

Françoise Robin is a professor at the Department of Tibetan Language and Literature, National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations, Paris. Her research focuses on the contents, dynamics and social implications of contemporary Tibetan culture in China, including poetry and fiction, women's writings and the young Tibetan cinema. She has also published translations of proverbs, folktales and contemporary Tibetan literature (*Neige* by Pema Tsenden, Paris, Picquier, 2013), as well as analyses of the current situation in Tibet (*Clichés tibétains*, Paris, Le Cavalier Bleu, 2011).

Nicola Schneider is an anthropologist and postdoctoral fellow at the Centre de Recherche sur les Civilisations d'Asie Orientale. She has worked on Tibetan nuns and nunneries in Tibet and India and published the book *Le renoncement au féminin. Couvents et nonnes dans le bouddhisme tibétain* (Presses universitaires de Paris Ouest, Nanterre, 2013). She currently engages with broader issues on Tibetan women and religion and teaches at the National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations.

Mona Schrempf is a socio-cultural anthropologist and former Wellcome Trust research fellow (2012-2015), with a focus on Tibetan medicine and diverse healing practices in the Himalayas (Bhutan; Himachal and Arunachal Pradesh/India), Amdo/Qinghai province (China). Her latest research concerns transnational styles of practice in globalised Tibetan medicine between China and Europe. She has published three edited volumes on Tibetan medicine, the latest being *Medicine Between Science and Religion - Explorations on Tibetan Grounds* (Berghahn Publishers, Oxford, New York, 2010 (2013)). She is also senior co-editor of the peer-reviewed academic journal *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity*.

