

## Contributors

**Gunnel Cederlöf** is a Professor of History at the Linnaeus University, Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies. She is also a Visiting Professor at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University in India. Her research interests span two intersecting fields: environmental and legal history in early modern India and in the British Empire. Over the years, her research has specifically focused on the transformation of agrarian bondage in modern south India and social mobilisation among landless "dalit" labourers, the formation of land law in conflicts over territory under early colonial rule, and the clash between nature, commerce and sovereign rights during colonial conquest of Bengal and NE India. Among her publications are *Founding and Empire on India's North-Eastern Frontiers, 1790-1840* (2014), *Landscapes and the Law* (2008), *Ecological Nationalisms* (2006), and *Bonds Lost: Subordination, Conflict and Mobilisation in Rural South India c. 1900-1970* (1997).

**Hildegard Diemberger** is the Research Director of Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies Unit (MIASU) at University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Pembroke College. Trained as a social anthropologist and Tibetologist at Vienna University, she has published numerous books and articles on the anthropology and the history of Tibet and the Himalaya as well as on the Tibetan-Mongolian interface, including the monograph *When a Woman becomes a Religious Dynasty: the Samding Dorje Phagmo of Tibet* (Columbia University Press 2007), the edited volume *Tibetan Printing – Comparisons, Continuities and Change* (Brill 2016) and the English translation of two important Tibetan historical texts (Austrian Academy of Science 1996, 2000). She has designed and coordinated a number of research projects funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, the British Academy and the Austrian Science Fund. She is currently the general secretary of the International Association for Tibetan Studies.

**Brendan A. Galipeau** earned a master's degree in Applied Anthropology from Oregon State University in 2012 and is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. He first travelled to Yunnan Province in China in 2007 as an undergraduate in field studies and has spent several months in the province each year since. His research interests and publications focus on environmental and economic anthropology of hydropower development, agricultural practices, and non-timber forest products in Southwest China. His current dissertation research explores economic and ecological representations of ethnicity and identity formation as they relate to agricultural change and commodification of wine and grape production among Tibetans in Northwest Yunnan Province.

**Georgina Drew** is a Senior Lecturer of Anthropology and Development Studies in the School of Social Sciences at the University of Adelaide, Australia. Her research interests include the anthropology of water, the cultural politics of development and climate change, feminist political ecology, and religion and ecology. Her work is featured in publications such as "Everyday Religion, Sustainable Environments, and New Directions in Himalayan Studies" a co-edited special issue with Ashok Gurung in the *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture* (2015), "Transformation and Resistance on the

Upper Ganga: The Case of British Canal Irrigation” (*South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 2014), and "Beyond Contradiction: Sacred-Profane Waters and the Dialectics of Everyday Religion (*Himalaya: The Journal for the Association of Nepal and Himalayan Studies* 2016), to name a few. From 2016-2019, Dr. Drew was awarded a prestigious Discovery Early Career Researcher Award through the Australian Research Council.

**Alexander Horstmann** is an Associate Professor of Southeast Asian Studies at the Estonian School of Humanities at Tallinn University, Estonia. He has published widely on the livelihood and social support networks of displaced Karen in Thailand and Burma and has coedited (with Jin-Heon Jung): *Building Noah's Ark for Migrants, Refugees and Religious Communities* (2015, Palgrave). His current research also includes fieldwork and theoretical thinking on ethnic riots, transitions to violence, hate campaigns, rumors, trust, morality, civility and questions of everyday multiculturalism. He has launched a new project on missionization among vulnerable people, a social history of refugees from mainland Southeast Asia and participates in the project *Buddhism, Business and Believers*, located at the University of Copenhagen.

**Li Quanmin** is Associate Professor at Yunnan Institute of Ethnological Research, Yunnan Minzu University. She received her Ph.D. in anthropology from the Australian National University. Her research interest focuses on tea trade and gift economy in the borderlands of Southwest China and Southeast Asia. Her publications representative of her work include *Identity, Relationships and Difference: the Social Life of Tea in a Group of Mon-Khmer Speaking People along China and Burma Frontier* (Yunnan University Press 2011) and numerous peer-reviewed journal articles on tea in rituals, gift exchange, and market economy, social governance, and regional development.

**Li Yunxia** is a lecturer at the Department of Sociology, Yunnan Minzu University. She received her M.Phil in social anthropology from University of Bergen, Norway and Ph.D. in anthropology from Macquarie University, Australia. Her research focuses mainly on Southwest China, Northern Laos and China-Lao border areas. Currently, her research interests include frontier issues, Western and Chinese modes of aid and development, trans-border capital and human flows, agrarian studies, gender, social work and ethnic policies. She has been actively involved in several projects related to public health and gender studies. Prior to these projects, she also participated in gender training programs sponsored by Ford and Rockefeller Foundations. She has published articles on gender, cosmologies, and domestic education of the Hani/Akha. Her current research project focuses on ethnic social networks in China-Lao borderlands.

**Jean Michaud** is a social anthropologist and professor at Université Laval in Canada. Since 1987, he has conducted anthropological research in highland India, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Yunnan on social change and responses to modernity among highland societies. He is the author of *“Incidental” Ethnographers. French Catholic Missions on the Tonkin-Yunnan Frontier, 1880–1930* (Brill, 2007) and co-author of *Frontier Livelihoods: Hmong in the Sino-Vietnamese Borderlands* (UW Press, 2015) and *The Historical Dictionary of the Peoples of the Southeast Asian Massif – Second Edition* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016). He co-edited *Moving Mountains: Ethnicity and Livelihoods in Highland China, Vietnam and Lao* (UBC Press, 2011). His research articles include “Zomia and Beyond” (*Journal of Global*

*History*, 2010), “Hmong Infrapolitics: A View from Vietnam” (*Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 2012), and “What’s (written) history for? On James C. Scott’s *Zomia*—especially Chapter 6½” (*Anthropology Today*, 2017).

**Sara Shneiderman** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and the Institute of Asian Research at the University of British Columbia. She works in the Himalayan regions of Nepal, India, and China’s Tibetan Autonomous Region. Her research explores the relationships between political discourse, ritual action, and cross-border mobility in producing ethnic identities and shaping social transformation. Current research includes an ethnography of “post-conflict” state restructuring in Nepal that focuses on citizenship, territory and religiosity (funded by Wenner-Gren Foundation); participation in the University of Toronto-based project “Infrastructures of Democracy: State-Building in Nepal’s Agrarian Districts” (funded by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council); and an emergent focus on post-earthquake reconstruction in Nepal. She is the author of *Rituals of Ethnicity: Thangmi Identities Between Nepal and India* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015) and several articles on Himalayan Studies; Nepal’s Maoist movement and political consciousness; and ethnicity, indigeneity and affirmative action.

**Dan Smyer Yü** is Professor and Founding Director of Center for Trans-Himalayan Studies at Yunnan Minzu University and a core member of the Transregional Research Network (CETREN) at University of Göttingen. Prior to his current faculty appointment, he was a Research Group Leader at Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Goettingen, Germany and a New Millennium Scholar at Minzu University of China, Beijing. He is the author of *The Spread of Tibetan Buddhism in China: Charisma, Money, Enlightenment* (Routledge 2011), *Mindscaping the Landscape of Tibet: Place, Memorability, Eco-aesthetics* (De Gruyter 2015), and numerous book chapters and peer-reviewed articles. His current research interests are religion and ecology, environmental humanities, transboundary state effects, hydraulic politics, climate change and heritage preservation, Buddhism and peacebuilding, and comparative studies of Eurasian secularisms. He is also a documentary filmmaker.

**Sarah Turner** is a Professor of Geography at McGill University, Canada. She has conducted fieldwork in urban Malaysia, Indonesia, and Vietnam, and since 1998 with upland ethnic-minority groups in rural northern Vietnam and southwest China. Her current research revolves around questions concerning livelihood diversification approaches of ethnic minorities, the roles of everyday politics and resistance in socialist states, commodity chain analyses of non-timber forest products, and the societal impacts of agrarian change in frontier locales. She also studies the livelihoods of rural and urban small-scale traders and street vendors, and is interested in innovative qualitative methods. Recent publications include *Frontier Livelihoods: Hmong in the Sino-Vietnamese Borderlands* (co-authored with C. Bonnin and J. Michaud, University of Washington Press 2015), and *Red Stamps and Gold Stars: Fieldwork Dilemmas in upland Socialist Asia* (edited volume, University of British Columbia Press 2013).

**Yang Cheng** is an Associate Professor at Yunnan Minzu University, China. She received her M.Phil in Anthropology of Development from UiB, Norway, in 2014. Her main research interests are modernity and modernization processes

(especially urbanization, migration, and globalization) in Yunnan, China's Southwest frontiers. So far, she has joined four research projects which respectively focus on Han, Naxi, Bulang and Dulong ethnic groups in Yunnan. The latter two are cross-border ethnic groups along the China-Myanmar border. To make people's livelihood as the main concern, her researches focus on how the group under study experiences various modernization processes and adapts to modernity. Furthermore, how these adaptations may engender transformation on identity, cultural heritage, traditional society, religion, education and gender relationship. As one of the members of both Centre for Trans-Himalayan Studies at Yunnan Minzu University and the Research Section for Southeast Asian Studies at Yunnan Provincial Ethnology Research Institute, she is motivated to put her research in wider contexts and enrich her research vision and study methodology.