

## Recent Books from Nepal – July 2019

**Mary Martin Booksellers Pte Ltd**  
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### Architecture

The Sky Face: Kirtimukha and Related Hybrid Creatures in the  
Architecture of Nepal, South and Southeast Asia / Niels Gutschow  
Himalayan Traditions and Culture Series No. 13

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

490p.

9789937933094

\$ 45.00 / HB

2050gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627405>

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### History

Everest: Reflections on the Solukhumbu / Lisa Choegyal (Photographs)  
Sujoy Das (Foreword) Sir Chris Bonington (Preface) Dr. Lhakpa Norbu  
Sherpa

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

147p.

9789937928892

\$ 45.00 / HB

'Mountain tourism, trekking and climbing, has changed Sherpa lives since we took "last step" on Everest in 1978. They have become great mountaineers, and today i would like to see Sherpas take over the management of Sagarmatha - it is their mountain. I highly recommend this spectacular tribute to Everest and it valiant people on the centenary of Sir Edmund Hillary's birth.' - Reinhold Messner, mountaineer, writer and filmmaker.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627406>

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Tales from the Himalaya: Religion, Science, Politics, Society / Henry Edmundson

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

424p. ; 11 Maps ; 171 Illustration.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9789937933032

\$ 52.00/ PB

1360gm.

“Tales from the Himalaya” is essential reading for anyone with a stake in the Himalaya, whether a first-time traveler to the region, a trekker, a mountaineer, or simply someone who is captured by the allure of the high mountains.

This book tells epic stories of religion, science, politics, and society that define the lives of every man, woman and child in this highest of human habitats. Lavishly illustrated with an extensive bibliography, “Tales from the Himalaya” is an inspirational journey, a feast for the eye as well as the mind.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627407>

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Across Borders : A Story of Norway – Nepal Relationships / Marit Bakke

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

viii, 102p.

9789937928885

\$ 15.00 / PB

384gm.

The relationship between Norway and Nepal goes back to the 1950s, when Norwegians first went to Nepal as workers, volunteers, diplomats, and backpacking travelers. Norway offered and Nepal warmly received financial and professional assistance. As of 2018, thousands of Nepalis and Norwegians have worked together to address Nepal’s development issues and find practical solutions to age-old problems. This book presents an overview of some of the projects that Norwegian individuals and organizations have initiated in Nepal, often in collaboration with Nepali partners. They include projects on energy, health, civil society, social affairs, environmental issues, urban and rural development, diplomacy, business and social enterprises, education, and culture. This is the story of a remarkable international friendship, some 70 years in the making and still going strong.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627408>

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## **Law**

Right to Have Rights : Theory of Anti-Deprivation Development  
Threshold : A Critical Discourse on Law and Development (Against  
Absurdity of Calculus Magic or Statistical Puzzles / Dr. Yubaraj Sangroula  
Bhaktapur: Lex & Juris Publication Books, 2018

xxx, 316p. ; 22cm.

Includes Bibliography

9789937051880

\$ 20.00 / PB

344gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627409>

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## **Literature**

The Madman / Yubaraj Sangroula

Bhaktapur: Lex & Juris Publication Books, 2019

xviii, 176p.

9789937056496

\$ 10.00 / PB

184gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627410>

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## **Religion – Buddhism**

Sakya Pandita's Treatise on Music / Ricardo Canzio (Commentary) Kunga Sonam

Kathmandu, Nepal/Taipei, Taiwan: Vajra Books & The EP Press, 2019  
xx, 148p.

English & Tibetan Text

9789937733076

\$ 19.95 / PB

276gm.

Sacred chanting and its accompanying instrumental music are vital elements of Tibetan ritual practice, performed in the context of consecration or empowerment ceremonies and rites of spiritual attainment, including communal offerings, protector liturgies and masked dances. This music is traditionally included among the arts, which constitute one of the five major fields of classical Indo- Tibetan learning, but its theoretical basis has rarely been explored.

Ethnomusicologist and Tibetanist Ricardo Canzio has dedicated a lifetime of research to the musical heritage of Tibet-Buddhist and Bon. His landmark translation of the seminal Treatise on Music, composed by the illustrious Sakya Pandita Kunga Gyaltsen (1182- 1251), and its long-awaited publication will be well received. This translation is contextualized by the commentary of Kunga Sonam Lhundrub (1571- 1642) and quotations from Dawa Pelrin of Zhalu (b. circa 1375), writings on chant, drumming and the playing of cymbals.

The Treatise on Music in its three chapters deals respectively with the four melodic contours of vocal chanting and their combinations, lyrics and their eulogistic and other functions in composition and finally the context of musical performance—the appropriate mental attitude, bodily posture, fundamental defects and causes of failure. Original texts are juxtaposed throughout by Prof. Canzio's insightful remarks, relating the Tibetan notion of melodic contour with the Indian notion of fixed melodic pitch, and commenting on the research of recent Western and Chinese ethnomusicologists in the study of Tibetan ritual music.

- Dr. Gyurme Dorje, Tibetologist

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627411>

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Journey to Distant Groves: Profound Songs of the Tibetan Siddha Kalden Gyatso / Victoria Sujata  
Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019  
xxii, 344p. ; Maps; 23cm.  
Includes Index ; Bibliography  
English & Tibetan Text  
9789937933063  
\$ 50.00 / PB  
1030gm.

These deeply profound songs of experience by Gelukpa scholar and siddha Kalden Gyatso (1607-1677) express high levels he attains and low points and inner struggles along his spiritual path. Drawn from his Collected Gur, two hundred and forty-two songs, they have been organized thematically to reflect his rigorous quest for Buddhahood. Experts in Tibetology, lovers of poetry, and spiritual seekers from any tradition will be uplifted by these songs. The superb translations are enhanced by Tibetan script, copious explanatory notes, a glossary of Buddhist terms, maps, and fifty full-size color photos taken around his hermitages in Amdo on the very edge of the Tibetan plateau.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627412>

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Explanation of the Practice of 'the tigre of the elements' : Inner fire practice in the mother tantra / Lopon Tendzin Namdhak Rinpoche  
Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019  
xvi, 168p. ; 21cm.  
9789937933087  
\$ 16.00 / PB  
212gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627413>

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## **Sociology/Culture Studies**

Women of the 'Third World' : What can we learn from them? / Claude W. Bobillier

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

xxx, 210p.

Includes Bibliography

9789937933056

\$ 25.00 / PB

230gm.

This is a book of compassion and revolt written by a man whose life work was to help people in what then was known as the "Third World" countries. Unlike some westerners who adapted and came to accept inequalities as a matter of fact, Claude Bobillier never let go of his anger, nor could he be complaisant about the suffering especially of the women he encountered. Written by a good story teller, this is a book that comes from the heart.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627414>

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Vernacular Religion: Cultural Politics, Community Belonging, and Personal Practice in the UK's Nepali Diaspora / (Ed) David N. Gellner  
Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

xviii, 262p.

Includes Index

9789937733045

\$ 20.00 / PB

332gm.

Nepalis in the UK are one of Britain's newest ethnic minority communities. Already highly visible because of the Gurkha connection, in an extraordinarily short time they have made their mark on the British landscape and created 100s of community organizations.

- How far does this impressive associational impulse simply re-create patterns found in Nepal and how far does it represent a series of new departures?
- Does the new context in which Nepalis find themselves prevent them from following certain traditional practices (e.g. shamanism)? Does it also liberate them and enable other practices?
- Do the social hierarchies and historical distinctions of Nepal still matter in the UK?
- How much of a gap is there between public performance and private practice? And why is the gap bigger in some cases than in others?
- Faced with the inescapable imperative to act ritually (after death, for example), how do UK-based Nepalis respond to these various dilemmas?
- What debates are generated when UK Nepalis attempt to map the Enlightenment distinctions of culture, religion, and politics on to inherited Nepali practices? Does the characteristic Nepali (and indeed Asian) polytropic approach to religion have something to teach us about how religion should be approached in general?

These essays—all products of the Vernacular Religion project (2009–12), part of the AHRC's Religion and Society programme—attempt to address these questions on the basis of detailed field research. They seek to provide an introduction to the full range of religious arguments and experiences of the UK's diverse Nepali population.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=627415>

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