

Recent Books from Nepal – Feb 2020

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Art

Toni Hagen photos of Kathmandu Valley, 1950-1960 / Poonam Raiya Laxmi Rana (Ed) Karin Hagen
Kathmandu: Nepal Heritage Society, 2019
176p.
9789937886413
\$ 50.00 / PB
852gm.

The exhibition of Toni Hagen's photos from the fifties organized by Nepal Heritage Society at Nepal Art Council in 2017 was very successful. Therefore the Nepal Heritage Society decided to publish a book with pictures, the ones which have not been yet printed in his book 'Nepal'. The pictures of the old days are somehow a cultural heritage. As Toni Hagen was the first foreigner who travelled for his geological survey all over the country, his photos and his films are of immense value not only for the archives but for the studies of the glaciers, as many of them have changed due to climate changes taking place through the century.

Most of these type of villages and houses which once existed cannot be seen anymore. The different ethnic groups all had their special house architecture, where as most of the houses are built now in the same style.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685454>

Children's Book

Yaks are God's Gift / Maria Antonia Sironi & Tsering Yangdzom
Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

32p.

English & Nepalese Language

9789937733137

\$ 12.00 / PB

120gm.

Thangla, the mountain god, wants to make peace between men and yaks, and to carry out this task he has chosen Sonam, a young shephard boy. Sleeping under the stars and traveling along the Tibetan plateau, you will discover how men and animals can live together in harmony, learning respect for nature and enjoying freedom and peace.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685455>

Economics

Female Farmers of Nepal : Invisible but Emergent Primary
Farmers / Subarna L. Malla Singh

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

xvi, 362p.

Includes Bibliography

9789937733168

\$ 32.00/ PB

346gm.

This study focuses on one of the important but insufficiently dealt concerns of contemporary Nepal: the gender issue in agriculture. Apart from exploring the causes and consequences of near invisibility of Nepali female farmers in agricultural policies and programs, the study draws attention to a wide range of urgent issues from migration and feminization of agriculture to women's land rights. It provides cognitive content for evidence informed policy programming. The study is also a must-read for researchers and students of gender and development studies.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685456>

Literature

Mountains Painted With Turmeric / Lil Bahadur Chettri
Kathmandu: FinePrint Books, 2019

xxvii, 124p.

Includes Bibliography

9789937665636

\$ 25.00 / HB

246gm.

“Chettri’s novel is a moving example of social realism, and Hutt’s elegant translation lends it a timeless fable-like tone with a gorgeous rendering of the natural scenery.” —

Publishers Weekly

“Michael J. Hutt's contribution as a translator and critic of Nepali literature has been invaluable. With *Mountains Painted with Turmeric*, he brings to light an iconic Nepali novel: the story of sheltered villagers faced with a harsh, changing world. Hutt's rendition is sensitive and skilled. Through his translation, he shares with us his deep empathy for and a fine understanding of Nepali reality.” — Manjushree Thapa, writer, and translator

“This is a moving story, depicting in wonderfully rich detail the round of village life: the daily farm work and chores, the gossip chain, the weekly market, the limited opportunities, the rapacious rich preying on the poor, and women's particular vulnerabilities. Reading this story could contribute to understanding why poor villagers would join the Maoists.”

— Ann Hunkins, poet, and translator

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Religion - Buddhism

A White Conch Spiraling Towards Happiness : Poems of a
Tibetan Maste / Sangngak Tenzin Rinpoche (Foreword) H.H.

Dudjom Sangye Pema Shepa

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

xviii, 294p.

English & Tibetan

9789937733182

\$ 19.95 / PB

462gm.

Across oceans of cloudbanks, the sound of the auspiciously spiraling conch,
Played by fair maidens far and wide, is so pleasing to the ears.
Adorning all existence and peace with renown and importance,
May it be an inexhaustible offering cloud,pleasing all the awakened ones.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685458>

Tibetan Pure Land Buddhism : Mipham Rinpoche on Self-Power and Other-Power / Lowell Cook

Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2019

xxii, 94p.

Includes Bibliography

9789937733106

\$ 12.00 / PB

140gm.

TIBETAN *Pure Land* BUDDHISM examines self-power and other-power in a Tibetan Buddhist context. The tension between self power and other-power concerns the process of rebirth in the pure land Sukhavati; that is, whether rebirth is achieved through one's own volition (self-power) or, conversely, through an external force such as the supernatural powers of Amitabha (other-power). Self-power and other-power are discussed at length in Japanese Buddhist Studies where they are called jiriki and tariki, respectively, and even has some distant parallels in Christian theology (namely, works and grace). Nevertheless, these two terms appear to go unmentioned in Tibetan Buddhist literature with one exception. The only Tibetan author to explicitly discuss self-power and other-power is the ecumenical scholar-practitioner 'Ju mi pham (1846-1912) in his work, Sun-like Instructions of a Sage: A Clarification of Faith which Purifies the Pure Land, the Land of Bliss (Bde ba can gyi zhing sbyong ba'i dad pa gsal bar byed pa drang srong lung gi nyi ma). This fourteen-folio treatise affirms that faith and aspiration (dad 'dun) are the primary cause for rebirth in Sukhavati and defends this position in a series of polemics against detractors of other-power.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=685459>
