

THE CEUS MONTHLY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Indiana University Department of Central Eurasian Studies

October, 2006

NEWS

The 11th Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies (IATS) was held in Königswinter, near Bonn, Germany from August 27th through September 2nd this year. With almost 400 people in attendance, the Tibetan Studies program of the Department of Central Eurasian Studies was very well represented by past and present faculty and students, as well as by colleagues who have been hosted by the department as visiting scholars.

Chris Beckwith organized and chaired a panel that served as the “Third Medieval Tibeto-Burman Languages Symposium.” He also presented a paper entitled “A Reexamination of the Pai-lang Songs.” **Elliot Sperling**, a member of the IATS advisory board, presented a paper on “Historical Factors in Economic and Demographic Growth in Khams.” This paper was presented as part of a panel on “Tibetan Populations: Past, Present and Future” organized and chaired by **Geoff Childs** (Ph.D. CEUS 1998), now on the faculty at Washington University in St. Louis. Childs also presented a paper on the panel entitled “Tibetan Transitions: Fertility Declines in Historical, Sociocultural, and Political Perspectives.” Other former CEUS faculty members who read papers at the seminar included **Beri Jigme Wangyal**, whose paper was titled “Beri rgyal po'i mnga' thang dar rgud skor rags tsam gleng ba;” **Chamdo Lobsang Sherap**, who spoke on “Chab mdo'i mnga' khongs rgya khyon gyi 'pho 'gyur;” and **Yangbum Gyal**, whose paper discussed “Dietetics and Skin Care in Tibetan Medicine.” Current Amnye Machen visiting scholar **Lobsang Shastri** was slated to deliver a paper on the “Old historical Document Collection in the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives,” but was unable to secure a visa in time from the German consulate.

Former CEUS students who presented papers at the seminar included **Johan Elverskog** (Ph.D. CEUS 2000), now on the faculty at Southern Methodist University, who spoke on “Injannashi and Late Qing Buddhism;” **Karl Debreczeny** (MA CEUS 1997), currently completing his Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Chicago, presented a paper titled “Unraveling the Painting Innovations of Chos-dbyings rdo-rje: Transmission, Influence and Adaptation;” **Lauran Hartley** (Ph.D. CEUS 2003) spoke on “Narrating the Self or Nation?: Memoirs of an Eighteenth-Century Tibetan Statesman and Littérateur;” and **Dan Martin** (Ph.D. CEUS 1991) and **Yael Bentor** (Ph.D. CEUS 1991), both of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, presented papers respectively entitled “Pha Dam-pa's Animal Metaphors and the Question of Indianness (Theirs and His)” and “Do the Tantras Embody What Practitioners Actually Do?” **Kristina Dy-Liacco** (MA CEUS 2005), currently at the Latse Library in New York attended the seminar, as did former faculty member **Pema Bhum**, now Latse's director. They arranged for special presentation to introduce participants to the Latse Library's resources and the Bya-ra database produced under Latse's auspices.

Current CEUS doctoral students attending the seminar also read papers. **Federica Venturi** presented a paper entitled “Reconstructing Sa-skya: Written Sources, Photographic Archives and Fieldwork,” and **Nicole Willock** spoke on “Tibetan perspectives on the Cultural Revolution.” In addition, two former visiting scholars who have spent semesters at CEUS also attended. Dr. **Agata Bareja-Starzyńska** presented a paper on “Tibeto-Mongolian relations according to the biography of Zanabazar (1635-1723), the first Jebtsundampa of Mongolia” while Dr. **Nikolai Tsyrempilov** read a paper that discussed “Sandan Tsydenov and his Buddhist theocratic project in Siberia.”

This summer **Christopher Atwood** visited Beijing, Mongolia, and Buriatia, where he gave the following papers: “Chengjisi Han he Wokuotai Han: Hubilie Han de jianjie [Chinggis Khan and Ögedei Khan: The View from Qubilai Khan]” at Beijing’s Central Nationalities University on June 29, 2006; “How the Mongols Rejected the Secret History” at Buriat State University in Ulaan-Üde, on July 9, 2006, and a Mongolian version of the same paper (“Mongolchuud kherkhen ‘Nuuts Towchoog’ khüleej awakhgüi baisan tukhai”) at the Ninth International Congress of Mongolists in Ulaanbaatar on August 9, 2006. All of these papers relate to his book in preparation translating and introducing the Veritable Records of Chinggis and Ögedei khans, an important and under-studied medieval source on the thirteenth century Mongolian empire. He also was invited to Beijing University’s Mongolian Studies Center and to the Institute of Mongolian, Buddhist, and Tibetan Studies in Ulaan-Üde to introduce his own work and Mongolian studies at Indiana University. He also visited Ust’-Orda and Aga in Buriatia and Uws province in Mongolia and spent three days familiarizing himself with the collections in the provincial archives of Uws province in Ulaangom city.

On October 28, **Gardner Bovington** will present a paper titled “Awful quiet out there: the oddity of a peaceful periphery in an increasingly contentious China” at the conference “Remaking Chinese Society: Politics of Redistribution, Recognition, and Representation,” at UC Berkeley.

Filiz Cicek (Turkish Studies) has presented a paper titled “Gender and Nationalism in German-Turkish Cinema: Lola’s Marginal Existence” at the Migrant and Diasporic Cinema Conference that took place this summer at the University of Oxford, Lincoln College. Cicek also published an article titled “The Pope and Islam” in the Istanbul based newspaper *Manset*.

Johan Elverskog (Ph.D. CEUS 2000) published the book *Our Great Qing: The Mongols, Buddhism and the State in Late Imperial China* (Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press, 2006).

György Kara recently published the article “Solon Ewenki in Mongolian Script” in *Tumen jalafun jecen akā. Manchu Studies in Honour of Giovanni Stary*, edited by A. Pozzi, J. A. Janhunen, M. Weiers (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2006), pp. 133-148, as well as a review of Moriyasu, Takeo, ed., *Chūō Ajia shotsudo bunbutsu ronsō. Papers on the Pre-Islamic Documents and Other Materials Unearthed from Central Asia* (Kyoto, 2004) in *Journal of Asian History* 40 (2006), pp. 108-110.

Ron Sela's article "Invoking the Russian Conquest of Khiva and the Massacre of the Yomut Turkmens: The Choices of a Central Asian Historian" was published in the most recent volume of *Asiatische Studien / Études Asiatiques* (LX:2, 2006, pp. 459-477). Sela's review of Stephane A. Dudoignon and Komatsu Hisao, *Research Trends in Modern Central Eurasian studies (18th-20th Centuries)* (Tokyo: The Toyo Bunko, 2003) appeared in the *Journal of Asian History* 40 (2006), pp. 106-108.

In the spring **Federica Venturi** (Tibetan Studies) taught a course titled 'Shangri-la Revisited: An Introduction to Tibetan Culture and Religion' at Indiana University's School of Continuing Studies. In the summer Venturi taught a course titled 'Introduction to Tibetan Culture' at University of California, Irvine, and this fall she is teaching the course 'A History of the Dalai Lamas' at the same university.

UPCOMING EVENTS*

Thursday – Sunday, October 5 - 8, Multiple Venues

13th annual Lotus World Music & Arts Festival, including performances by Huun-Huur-Tu, throat-singing ensemble from Tuva, and Tibetan singer Yunchen Lhamo (both events sponsored by IAUNRC and CEUS), as well as Tibetan and Mongolian arts on display and a demonstration of how to erect a ger (Saturday, 2:45 pm, Third Street Park). More details at <http://www.lotusfest.org>

Tuesday, October 10, 4 pm, Wylie Hall 005

Lecture by Dr. Alari Purji: "Public Governance Institutions and their Impact on Delocalization of Labor Intensive Industries: The Case of Estonia."

Thursday, October 19, 7 pm, Swain Hall East 140

Persian Film Series:

Leila, directed by Dariush Mehrjui (1996).

Friday, October 20, 8 pm, Wylie Hall 005

Turkish Film Series:

Why were Hacivat & Karagoz murdered? (2005).

Saturday, October 21, 2 - 5 pm, Lower Cascades Park South Shelterhouse

The annual CEUS department picnic, hosted by the Association of Central Eurasian Students.

Monday, October 23, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Indiana Memorial Union University Club

1956 Hungarian Revolution Commemoration

*See an updated list of all CEUS events at: <http://www.indiana.edu/~ceus/eventsnew.shtml>

Communication for the next edition of *The CEUS Monthly* should be electronically submitted by noon, Tuesday, October 31, to Ron Sela at rsela@indiana.edu