

Editorial Note

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Electronic version

URL: <https://journals.openedition.org/ebhr/190>

DOI: 10.4000/ebhr.190

ISSN: 2823-6114

Publisher

CNRS - UPR 299 - Centre d'Etudes Himalayennes

Electronic reference

Tristan Bruslé, Stéphane Gros and Philippe Ramirez, "Editorial Note", *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* [Online], 56 | 2021, Online since 10 September 2021, connection on 22 July 2022. URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/ebhr/190> ; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/ebhr.190>

This text was automatically generated on 22 July 2022.



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- 1 The *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* turns thirty! With this first issue for 2021 we are pleased to inaugurate the beginning of *EBHR*'s new life as an e-journal.
- 2 From now on, the first letter of the acronym could also stand for “*Electronic*” *Bulletin of Himalayan Research*. On a more serious note, we are keen to maintain *EBHR*'s strong European base, if only for the continuous institutional support it has received from Heidelberg, SOAS and CNRS since its inception. It is our hope that in becoming an open-access online journal it will reaffirm its relevance and usefulness in the field of Himalayan studies and will strengthen its role in promoting scholarship at European level as well as internationally.
- 3 To achieve this move we have benefitted from the help and guidance of colleagues at PREO (*Pépinières de Revues en Open Access*), a structure hosted at *Maison des sciences de l'homme* in Dijon (France) and dedicated to helping journals transition successfully to open-access and online publishing in accordance with current standards. This will enable *EBHR* to join the Open Edition platform in the very near future and to benefit from the increased visibility this large publishing platform offers. The completion of this transition will qualify *EBHR* for being referenced in the Directory of Open Access Journal (DOAJ).
- 4 This new publishing environment ensures better discoverability of the content we publish and significantly reduces publication time: henceforth, the journal will propose the publication of research articles on a rolling basis, in parallel with the publication of thematic dossiers and special issues. It also allows for better indexing and referencing of all articles which will be attributed a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). We believe that in the current publishing environment, these are among the features *EBHR* should offer contributors who trust us with their work.
- 5 Our goal is to promote the unhindered dissemination of results from scientific research and to draw on the opportunity provided by digital progress to democratise access to knowledge. Accordingly, we have decided to publish under the least restrictive license, the Creative Commons Attribution license (CC BY), as recommended by the Berlin Declaration. Overall, we follow the principles and recommendations put forth by the

French National Plan for Open Science, by the European Union in the context of the Horizon Europe programme and by cOAlition S.

- 6 In this issue, the two research articles attest to the relevance of Himalayan studies to broader issues of anthropological interest. Pascal Bouchery discusses kinship terminologies based on the case of the Adi of Arunachal Pradesh and bridges earlier debates with more recent discussions in the field of kinship studies. Building on his long-term fieldwork among the Newar, Gérard Toffin brings to the fore the importance of religious traditions associated with *guthi* organisations that have retained their specificity despite the influence of Hinduism and Buddhism.
- 7 We are delighted to launch a Photo Essay section, a new feature in *EBHR* that should appeal to scholars keen to explore new modes of showcasing their research. Samuele Poletti gets the ball rolling with an essay that illustrates the influence of conversion to Christianity on personhood in the Sinja valley. We hope to receive more contributions that make use of image, audio or video and to take full advantage of the possibilities of online publishing.
- 8 Another new feature of the journal is the republication of an article followed by a researcher's comments on its scholarly importance. In this issue, Tanka Subba discusses the ongoing relevance of Srikant Dutt's 'Migration and Development' that was published in 1981.
- 9 In the spirit of previous issues under our editorship, we are including several dissertation abstracts from recently submitted PhDs. The Book Review section illustrates the liveliness and diversity of Himalayan studies. One of the book reviews will be followed by a response from the author in the next issue, instigating a welcome debate. We will expand on this feature in the issues to come to foster debate around recent publications.
- 10 The Bulletin remains open to all proposals for articles, reviews, announcements and other contributions. We look forward to working with all those in the community who trust us with their work in our continuing efforts to promote current research on the extended Himalayas.

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