

Current Himalayan and Tibetan Research
20.-24. April 2021, Rzucewo near Gdańsk, Poland



**Eastern Research Commission of the Committee
of Ethnological Sciences, Polish Academy of Sciences,
Institute of Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University Berlin
and
Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology,
Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland,**

have the pleasure to invite you for the conference

Current Himalayan and Tibetan Research

to be held in

Rzucewo near Gdańsk, Poland
20.-24. April 2021

(in Zamek Jan III Sobieski)

Call for Papers (updated)

Dear Conference Participants,

The main reason why to meet is to take a part in a gathering of enthusiasts, which breaks usual conference schemes. This slow-conference meeting is self-financed. We simply share costs of it between us. Nobody earns money on it and it is organized in the simplest and the cheapest possible way. The original idea of such a meeting came out of numerous experiences of participation in conferences which we did not like. As an antidote, we propose a true slow-conference, avoiding most of *nots*: limited time for presentation, general hurry, several panels, boring atmosphere, bad food, high costs and fractions of researchers, academic institutions and so on. In the same time, we know what we are going to offer, because it is our sixth event, this time in Rzucewo, at the Polish sea-shore. Previous meetings (held in Bedlewo Palace), under the common head *Current Western Himalayan Research* were: *Himalayan meeting places: trade, pilgrimage and cultural encounters* (27-29th April 2011), and the second meeting, *Approaches, Methodologies, Results* (25-27th April 2015), then came time for *Challenges, Problems or Failures* (27-30th April 2016), *My Himalayan Story* (11-14th April 2018), and the last *Gods, Ghosts, Demons and Other Beings* (15-18th May 2019). All of them proved to be fruitful and brought a lot of fresh energy into our individual researches. In between the official International Association of Ladakh Studies' conference was hold in the same place in 2017 (2-6th May). Following this fine and expected tradition, we are going to meet again to discuss and enrich each other with our own reflections as well as stay open enough to hear about others' studies based in various disciplines.

Announced conference is again planned to be a sequent summit involving art historians, anthropologists, ethnologists, historians and linguists, engineers, biologists, zoologists, photographers, filmmakers, scholars and researchers in related and not related disciplines, all commonly interested in the culture and innumerable aspects of the Himalayas and Tibet.

Papers qualified and presented at the conference should be devoted mainly to the social and cultural dimensions of the Himalaya and Tibet from the perspective of social sciences and humanities, including political sciences, economics and history. However, representatives of other disciplines: geographers, biologists, cartographers, architects, engineers etc. are also invited. Presenters are invited to examine any facet of the Himalayan and Tibetan world in view to broaden the others' understanding of the characteristic features of the area. Participants are asked to focus on their primary research, drawing on personal or documented knowledge, experiences, and on-going or planned projects.

Provisional program scheme allows every participant to plan the presentation for at least 45 min. Plus plenty of time to discuss, officially and privately. We have not to persuade any former Bedlewo participant that the unique atmosphere is a sufficient recommendation to consider the current contribution. To any newcomer and hesitant we would advise to ask anyone being previously present in Bedlewo already for her/his opinion.

Language of the Conference:

English

Conference location:

Rzucewo, Poland - 45 km from Gdańsk. The latter has a good communication with Warsaw or Poznan, although it is recommended to plan international flights directly to Gdańsk. Meeting will take place in Zamek Jan III Sobieski <http://zameksobieski.pl>

We have booked the entire place, so the palace, and its adjoining park is entirely for our use. The beach at the nearest sea shore is about 200 m from the palace. Please take a virtual walk to see how beautiful place it is <http://zameksobieski.pl/Spacer.html>

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Please do not hesitate to contact Rafal Beszterda or Diana Lange in any case you need assistance or more detailed information.

Scheme of the Conference:

The main purpose of the Conference is to serve as an opportunity to establish strong personal contacts between scholars of various disciplines, all working on the Himalayan and Tibetan topics. We will try our best to make your stay in Poland as comfortable as possible.

At this stage it is hard to estimate the number of participants and their countries of origin, but we hope to hold a fruitful gathering of passionate scholars, willing to share their knowledge and energy with others. In accordance with the general approach of the conference, we will try to create the conditions for mostly round table discussions rather than formal speeches. The programme is planned to take place in a single conference room, not to divide us into panels.

Registration:

The registration form together with an abstract or submission of other kind of proposal should be sent to Rafal Beszterda or Diana Lange. Submissions will be reviewed and selected by the Conference Scientific Committee or special sessions organisers.

Conference Fee (presentation is person):

860 PLN (approx. 200 Euro) – paid directly to the Hotel's bank account + 170 PLN (approx. 40 Euro) - paid into the separate bank account (for transportation costs and excursion at place).

The fee includes access to all the Conference sessions taking place from 31. March to 04. April. 2020
+ full accommodation (3 main meals a day and lodging in comfortable single rooms with attached bathrooms)

+ bus transport from Gdańsk to Rzucewo and return

+ refreshments in the coffee breaks

+ all the activities at place

Details of the payment will be given in the further correspondence.

Please submit your individual preferences regarding prolongation of the stay, earlier arrivals etc. fulfilling the appropriate boxes of the Application Form.

Deadline for submissions:

Proposals for paper presentations and other forms of participation – **31. October 2020**

Acceptance Notifications Proposals: for paper presentations and others – **15. November 2020**

Participant Registration Deadline together with Payment – **31. December 2020**

**Welcoming you to Rzucewo,
we are looking forward to offer
the unforgettable atmosphere of Spring in Poland
combined with probably the best international company of
scholars united by a common interest in the Himalaya and Tibet
(but there is no need to convince most of you about, we think)**