



S.W. Laden La. Courtesy of Ann Tashi Slater

From 1920s Tibet to 21st-Century Darjeeling: A Tibetan Family History Prof. Ann Tashi Slater (Japan Women's University)

Ann Tashi Slater discusses her family history from 1920s Tibet to 21st-century Darjeeling. The talk highlights the life and contributions of Slater's great-grandfather, S.W. Laden La (1876-1936), a diplomat and scholar who helped bring *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* to the West and was a close friend of the Thirteenth Dalai Lama. Through photographs and film clips from her family archives, Slater offers a glimpse into the religious, political, and social worlds of Lhasa and Darjeeling during a time of profound change. She also reflects on how family stories travel across generations and borders, exploring questions of memory, identity, displacement, and cultural inheritance.

Ann Tashi Slater is a professor of literature at Japan Women's University. Her speaking and teaching engagements include Princeton, Columbia, Oxford, The American University of Paris, Asia Society, and the Rubin Museum of Himalayan Art. A contributor to *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *Granta*, and *The Penguin Book of Modern Tibetan Essays*, among others, she is also the author of *Traveling in Bardo: The Art of Living in an Impermanent World* (Balance/Hachette, 2025). She has been researching and writing about her Tibetan family history for over four decades.

Lieu : Inalco, 65 rue des Grands Moulins, 75013 Paris, salle 3.02
Entrée libre, sans inscription / contact : frobin@inalco.fr