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EDUCATION

University of Colorado Boulder, Ph.D., Cultural Anthropology, 2015-present
University of Colorado Boulder, M.A., Cultural Anthropology, 2011-2014
Sarah Institute for Higher Tibetan Studies, certificate in Tibetan Studies, 2009-2011
University of Massachusetts Amherst, B.A. Social Theory and Political Economy, 2003-2007

POSITIONS HELD

University of Colorado
Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Anthropology, 2011-present
Conservancy for Tibetan Arts and Culture
Project Assistant, 2009

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIP:

Foundation for Universal Responsibility Fellowship for Dalai Lama Studies 2022
Center for Humanities and the Arts Dissertation Fellowship 2022
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Grant 2019
Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant 2019
The Beverly Sears Graduate Student Grant program, Dean's Award, 2018
The Dalai Lama Trust Graduate Scholarship Program, 2016 and 2012
The Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences, 2015
Haskell-Houghtelin Fund, 2015
Pre-Dissertation Grant, 2015
The Goldstein Altman Graduation Research Award, 2012

PUBLICATIONS

2022. "Sovereignty in Settler Colonial Times: Kinship and Education in the Tibetan Exile Community." *American Ethnologist* website, 03 March 2022, <https://americanethnologist.org/features/reflections/sovereignty-in-settler-colonial-times>

2020. "The Discursive Art of China's Colonialism: Reconfiguring Tibetan and State Identities." *Tibet Policy Institute Journal*. Vol. VII No. 2.

2020. Decolonizing "responsibility" in Tibetan and Buddhist Studies: A Structurally Decolonizing Praxis. *Waxing Moon*, 1(1). <https://doi.org/10.7916/waxingmoon.v1i1.6826>

2018. "Who is a Pure Tibetan? Identity, Intergenerational History, and Trauma in Exile," in *Tibetan Subjectivities on the Global Stage: Negotiating Dispossession*, edited by Shelly Bhoil and Enrique Galvan-Alvarez. Lexington Books. p195-212.

2014. "Female Tibetan Leaders," in Tsering Shakya and Shelly Bhoil, eds., *Muse India*, September-October issue. <http://www.museindia.com/Home/ViewContentData?arttype=feature&issid=57&menuid=5141>

Forthcoming Publication:

“Decolonizing ‘Tibetan’ Studies: Empire, Ethnicity, and Rethinking Sovereignty.” The Oxford Handbook of the Himalayas, edited by Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa et al., Oxford University Press, under contract.

“Tibetan Refugees and the Negotiation of Relatedness: Semi-Orphans of the 1960s and 1990s” (reprint). *The Tibet Reader*, edited by Carole McGranahan et al., Duke University Press, under contract.

CONFERENCE PANELS, PRESENTATIONS, LECTURES

2021. “Decolonizing Neoliberal Feminism: Reflections on Tibetan Feminisms,” on the panel “Reading Queerly: Towards a Queer, Trans, and Feminist Readings of Tibetan Buddhism.” Roundtable Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, Texas. November 20th to 23th 2021.

2021. “Tibetan Refugees & the Negotiation of Relatedness: Semi-Orphans of the 1960s & 1990s,” on the panel “When Kinship Is Not ‘Warm and Fuzzy,’” Part 3: Negative Affects. Roundtable Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, MD. November 17th to 21st 2021.

2021. “Decolonizing ‘Tibetan’ Studies: Empire, Ethnicity, and Rethinking Sovereignty” lecture at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. For the Tibet and Himalaya lecture series for Central Asian Seminar at the Institute of Asian and African Studies. November 8th, 2021.

2021. “The Discursive Art of China's Colonialism: Reconfiguring Tibetan and State Identities” lecture at University of Los Angeles (UCLA) Center for Chinese Studies. November 5th 2021.

2021. “Lhakar Diaries as a Decolonizing Pedagogy and Praxis,” on the “Unlearning Tibet: Decolonial Pedagogy and Praxis in Tibetan Studies” panel for the Modern Tibetan Studies program at Columbia University. New York, USA. May 5th 2021.

2020. “Decolonizing ‘Responsibility’: Structure vs. Event,” on the “Heritage and Repatriation Panel Discussion” panel at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) “Festival of Ideas” event, London, UK. October 21st 2020.

2019. “A Decolonizing Practice in Tibetan Studies,” on the panel “Decolonail/Anti-Racist Interventions in Tibetan Buddhist Studies,” Roundtable Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA. November 23rd to 26th 2019.

2018. “Are Tibetans Indigenous?,” panel on “Asian Settler Colonialisms and Indigeneities” that I organized, at the 116th American Anthropological Association Conference in Washington DC, November 28th to December 3rd, 2018.

2017. “Institutionalizing Refugee Subjectivities through Schools: Education, Kinship, and Continuity in the Tibetan Exile Community,” 5th Himalayan Studies Conference, University of Colorado Boulder, September 1st to 4th 2017.

2016. “Decolonizing Ethnographic *Responsibility*: Towards A Decolonized Praxis,” The Ethnographic Turn: On Theory, Method, and Practice in Anthropology, panel on “Experiential Ethnography,” at the University of Colorado at Boulder, USA, September 30th to October 1st, 2016.

2016. “Precarious Life: Semi-Orphaned Tibetan refugees,” 4th Himalayan Studies Conference, panel on “Exile Tibetan Communities: Resistance, Sustenance, and Continuity” that I co-organized with Dr. Carole McGranahan, at the University of Texas at Austin, USA, February 25th to 28th, 2016.

2015. “Stating the Obvious: Being a Native Anthropologist,” Engaged Anthropology: Responsibility and Scholarship in the Current Political Moment, panel on “Politics of Positionality and Engagement,” at the University of Colorado at Boulder, USA, September 25th to 26th, 2015.

2014. “Gender Violence, Leadership, and the Modern Tibetan Woman,” Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, panel on “Beyond Goddesses and Yoginis: Buddhism and Gender Across Buddhist Societies and Traditions,” at the University of Toronto, Canada, May 22nd to 25th, 2014.

2014. “Decolonizing Notions of Tibetans as Chinese,” presentation and workshop at York University, May 26th, 2014.

2013. “Non-Refugee Refugees: Tibetans’ Struggles for Visibility in Bureaucratic India,” The Fantastic and the Banal: Rethinking Bureaucratic Authority, panel on “Paper Promises: Troubled Temporalities and Uncertain Citizens,” at the University of Colorado at Boulder, USA, September 27th to 28th, 2013.

COMMUNAL WORKSHOPS AND ENGAGEMENT

2021. “Are Tibetans Indigenous?” talk and discussion in collaboration with Tibetan Youth Organizers of the Toronto Tibetan Community, Toronto, Canada. May 8th.

2020. “Pathways to Success,” talk and interview for the International Campaign for Tibet, Washington DC. November 19th.

2020. “Tibetan Women and Leadership in Exile,” talk for the “Tibetan Women’s Day” hosted by the Women Empowerment Desk under the Central Tibetan Administration, India. March 12th.

2018. “Learning from Early histories of the Establishment of Exile,” for the panel “CTA’s Leadership toward the Five-Fifty Vision- Creating Visionary Leadership, and Resource Mobilization” for the “Five-Fifty Youth Forum: Shaping Tibet’s Future” organized by the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), Dharamsala, India. August 17th-19th.

2018 and 2017. “Research and Community: 3 Days with Anthropologists of Tibet,” hosted and presented on “New Research in Tibetan Studies,” “Happy Hour: ‘Ask an Anthropologist,’” and “Ordinary People’s Stories and Tibetan History: A Memory Workshop” with Dr. Carole McGranahan and Dr. Ben Joffe the summer of 2017 and 2018 in New York (USA), Toronto (Canada), and Dharamsala (India). Funded by Wenner-Gren’s the Innovations in Public Awareness of Anthropology Grant (IPAA). Hosted in partnership with community organizations and institutions: Students for a Free Tibet in New York, Tibetan Women’s Association regional office of Toronto, Students for a Free Tibet Canada, and Sarah Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies in Dharamsala, India.

2014. “Decolonizing Notions of Tibetans as Chinese,” presentation and workshop at Karma Sonam Dargye Ling, Toronto, Canada, organized by Students for a Free Tibet Canada, May 28th.

2014. “College Preparation Workshop,” organized by the Tibetan Association of Boston Sunday School, Boston, MA, USA, June 8th. This was a presentation to Tibetan high school students who are often the first in their family to attend college. The workshop was designed to inform on the admissions process and how to approach admission essays.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Tibetan
Hindi (spoken)
English