

Curriculum Vitae

1. Personal information

Name: Charles A.E. Ramble
 Nationality: British
 Date of birth: 6 February 1957
 Place of birth: Calcutta, India

Present employment: Professor of Tibetan History and Philology
 (Directeur d'études, École Pratique des Hautes Études,
 Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques,
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2. Education

- 1979-1985 University of Oxford, England. D.Phil. in social anthropology. Title of doctoral thesis: "The lamas of Lubra: Tibetan Bonpo householder priests in North-west Nepal". Research included two years of fieldwork in a Tibetan-speaking community in Mustang District, West Nepal.
- 1976-1979 University of Durham, England. BA (Joint hon.) in psychology and anthropology
- 1975-1976 Pomfret Academy, Pomfret, Connecticut, USA
- 1969-1975 Peter Symonds' Grammar School, Winchester, England. "A" Levels in Latin, English, French

3. Post-doctoral research and employment

- 2010- Research Lecturer in Tibetan and Himalayan Studies, University of Oxford, UK
- 2010- Directeur d'études, École Pratique des Hautes Études, Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques

- 2000-2010 University Lecturer in Tibetan and Himalayan Studies, University of Oxford, UK
- 1999- Chargé de cours, University of Paris X (Nanterre): lectures in anthropology of the Himalaya to MA and PhD candidates in ethnology.
- 1998-2000 Researcher, Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology (Ethnology), University of Vienna.
- 1997-1998 Researcher (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter) at the Seminar für Zentralasienwissenschaft of the Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, for the continuation of the Nepal-German Project on High Mountain Archaeology.
- Research associate (Auftragnehmer) at the Institut für Völkerkunde, University of Vienna.
- 1997- One semester. Chargé de cours in Anthropology of Tibet and Nepal to diploma students INALCO, University of Paris.
- 1992-1997 Researcher (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter) at the Seminar für Sprach- und Kulturwissenschaft Zentralasiens, University of Bonn, in the framework of the Nepal-German project on High Mountain Archaeology, a multidisciplinary research project on the history of settlement in northern Nepal, funded by the DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft). Work involved the photographic collection of documents in southern and northern Mustang, classification and translation of the material, and ethnographic research relevant to village ritual and the history of political organisation.
- 1991-1992 One semester. Chargé de cours, University of Paris X (Nanterre): lectures in anthropology of the Himalaya to MA and PhD candidates in ethnology.
- 1989-1991 Consultant anthropologist in the research phase of a project to establish two contiguous cultural and environmental conservation zones: the Makalu-Barun Conservation Area in East Nepal, and the Qomolangma Nature Preserve, southern Tibet.
- 1987-1989 Naturalist in the Royal Chitwan National Park, Nepal.
- 1985-1987 Leverhulme study abroad scholarship for further research in Nepal and Tibet.

4. Other positions held

2010 (Dec)–2011 (March) Visiting Professor, Institut für Kunstgeschichte, University of Vienna.

2008 (Oct–Dec) Visiting research fellow, Institut für Tibetologie und Buddhismuskunde, University of Vienna.

2008– Member of the selection committee for Section 38 of the CNRS (Membre du jury d’admissibilité du comité national de la recherche scientifique, Section 38).

2007– Member of the scientific committee of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Documentation of Inner and South Asian Cultural History (CIRDIS), based at the University of Vienna.

2006– President, International Association for Tibetan Studies

2004– Vice-President, Eco-Himal UK

2003– Editorial board member, Brill’s Tibetan Studies Library.

2000–2006 Member of the advisory board of the International Association for Tibetan Studies.

1996–1997 Associate member l’ESA 8047, (CNRS/EPHE), Etudes tibétaines.

1994–2002 Co-editor (with Prof. Kamal Prakash Malla) of *Kailash: a Journal of Himalayan Studies*.

5. Talks and conferences (since 2000)

2010 (3 Dec) Co-convenor (with Professor Matthew Kapstein, École Pratique des Hautes Études), journée d’études [workshop]: *Rites et connaissances en Haute Asie*. Title of paper: Encore un mot sur le cerf : le motif de la chasse et du démembrement dans les rituels bonpo pour l’acquisition de la bonne fortune [More on the deer: the motif of hunting and dismemberment in Bonpo rituals for the acquisition of good fortune].

2010 (13 Nov) *South Asian Perspectives*. Paper delivered at Colloquium of the Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity, *Carnival and Cult from Caesar to Chrysostom*. Worcester College.

2010 (22–23 Jul) Co-convenor (with Dr George FitzHerbert, Oriental Institute). *A Garland of Many-coloured Flowers: a conference to celebrate ten years of Tibetan Studies at Oxford*. At Wolfson College. Title of paper: “The Origins of Tibetan Autobiography”.

2010 (2 July) Ashmolean, Oxford; *Mellon Sawyer Seminar on Conversion in Late Antiquity*. “What Lies Beneath: the Need for a Half-done Job in Tibetan Buddhist Narratives of Conversion”.

2010 (7 May) International Institute of Asian Studies, Leiden: “The Sinfulness of Subjugating Vampires in Mustang, Nepal”.

2010 (11-13 January) The Lumbini International Research Institute, Lumbini, Nepal. Conference: *Buddhist Pilgrimage in History and Present Times*: “Tibetan pilgrimage writing and its literary neighbourhood”.

2009 (12–13 Nov) Co-convenor (with Prof. Yves Goudineau, EFEO, Maison française d’Oxford) of conference *Centrality viewed from the Borders: Comparisons in the “Asia Massif”, from the Himalaya to Mainland Southeast Asia*. At Wolfson College. Title of paper: ‘From “Centre of this Earth” to “Barbarous Borderlands” and back again: spatial self-representation in Tibetan politico-religious discourse.’

2009 (17–19 avril) Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla, India. Conference: *Cultural Flows across the Western Himalaya*,. “‘The real Bonpo atmosphere’: remarks on two Bonpo rituals for summoning good fortune (*g.yang-’gug*)”.

2009 (13-15 fevrier) Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Allemagne. Conference: *Pilgerschaft und Pilgerorte in den Kulturen Asiens*. Talk entitled: “One foot in each world: an overview of Tibetan pilgrimage literature”.

2008 (22-25 juin) Congrégation Shenten Dargyeling, Saumur. Conference: *Bon, the Indigenous Source of Tibetan Religion and Culture*. Talk entitled: “Playing dice with the devil: The text of a Bonpo soul retrieval ritual (*bla bslu/ bla ’gug*) attributed to sTong rgyung mthu chen”.

2008 (1 juin) Himalaya Nepal Festival, Manchester Town Hall, UK. Talk entitled: “Snow Leopard Cave: the Rediscovery of a Lost Buddhist Temple in the Cliffs of Mustang”.

2007 (8-9 novembre) EPHE, Paris. Conference entitled: “*The transformation of rituals*”

in the Tibetan area". Talk entitled: "A Bonpo lama and his parish: three decades of change in a Tibetan patronage network in Nepal".

2007 (30 octobre) Bagri Foundation Lecture Series on Asian Mysticism: "Tibetan Mysticism".

2007 (14 octobre) Rubin Museum of Art, New York, USA. Exhibition: *Bon the Magic Word*. Talk entitled: "What is Bon?"

2007 (9-13 aout) International Seminar of Young Tibetologists, SOAS. Keynote address: "New directions in Tibetan Studies".

2007 (19-21 mars), New Delhi, India International Centre. Conference: *The politics of Belonging in the Himalayas. Democracy, Citizenship and Belonging in the Himalayas*. Talk entitled: "What it Means to be an Insider: the Manufacture of Community Identity among the Bhotes of Nepal".

2006 (20 octobre) Department of Sanskrit, Harvard University, USA. Talk entitled: "The butcher-monk, the whisky priest and the book-burners: a salutary lesson in the misinterpretation of Tibetan archives".

2006 (11 octobre) China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture (CAPDTC), First Tibetan Culture Forum, Beijing, RPC. Talk entitled: "The challenge of perserving Tibetan non-material culture".

2005 (12–13 mai) Journée Internationales d'Études, "*Institutions Religieuses, Civiles et Militaires du Tibet: Documents d'Asie Centrale, de Dunhuang et de Mustang*" organisé par Mme Cristina Scherrer-Schaub (EPHE). Presentation of archival collections from Mustang.

2004 (20 May) Department of Religious Studies, University of Oslo, Norway. Talk entitled: "The Buddha, the Brick and the Boarhunt: a possible solution to a conundrum in the *Lalitavistara Sutra*".

2004 (17 May) Department of Anthropology, University of Bergen, Norway. Talk entitled: "Some paradoxes surrounding monarchy and democracy in Nepal".

2003 (3 December) Centre d'Anthropologie Culturelle, Université Libre de Bruxelles. "On the interpretation of historical documents concerning Tibetan folk religion".

2003 (September) Convenor of the Tenth Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies, St Hugh's College, Oxford.

2003 (23-25 May) Conference *Nomadi Tibetani*, Museo etnografico Pigorini.
 “Historical documents concerning grazing rights among the nomads of Porong, South-central Tibet”.

2002 (7 June) Department of South Asian Studies, University of Leicester, UK. Talk entitled: “The politicisation of ethnicity in post-panchayat Nepal”.

2002 (5 April) 72nd conference of SAALG (South Asia Archive and Library Group), SOAS, University of London. Talk entitled: “Tribal motifs in the biographies of the Buddha”.

2001 (23 April) "Sources for an Understanding of the Tibetan Landscape." University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA.

2000 (11 November) Asia House, Londres. “The interface between landscape and territory in Tibet”.

2000 (24 March-1 April) Wenner-Gren Foundation Conference “Time and Temporalities in the Anthropological Record,” Mallorca, Spain. Talk entitled “Temporal disjunction in the creation of collective identity”.

Publications (reviews, translations and articles in popular magazines and travel guides not listed)

I. Books

Forthcoming a

Tibetan Sources for a Social History of Mustang, Nepal. Volume 2: the Archives of the Priests of Tshognam. Halle: International Institute for Tibetan and Buddhist Studies.

Forthcoming b

Tibetan Sources for a Social History of Mustang, Nepal. Volume 3: the Archive of Baragaon. Halle: International Institute for Tibetan and Buddhist Studies.

2008a *The Navel of the Demoness: Tibetan Buddhism and Civil Religion in Highland Nepal.* New York: Oxford University Press.

2008b *Tibetan Sources for a Social History of Mustang, Nepal. Volume 1: the Archive of Te.* Halle: International Institute for Tibetan and Buddhist Studies.

2005 (with Geshe Gelek Jinpa *et al.*). *Sacred Landscape and Pilgrimage in Tibet: in Search of the Lost Kingdom of Bön.* New York: Abeville Press.

2. Edited volumes

- 2003 (with Niels Gutschow, Axel Michaels and Ernst Steinkellner) *Sacred Landscape in the Himalaya*. Proceedings of an interdisciplinary conference held in Heidelberg, 25th-27th May 1998. Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- 1998 (with Katia Buffetrille) *Tibétains. 1959-1999: 40 ans de colonisation*. Paris: Éditions Autrement - collection Monde HS no. 108. (Contributions: "Prologue", pp. 7-17; "Chronologie", pp. 170-74.)
- 1993 (with Martin Brauen) *Anthropology of Tibet and the Himalaya*. Zurich: Ethnological Museum of the University of Zurich.
- 1990 (with N.K. Rustomji) *Himalayan Environment and Culture: Analysis and Prospect*. Proceedings of a conference held at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, October 1986. Delhi: Indus Publications.

3. Translated book

- 2003 Nicolas Tournadre and Sangda Dorje, *Manual of Standard Tibetan: Language and Civilization*. Ithaca: Snow Lion Publications.

4. Articles

Forthcoming

The deer as a structuring principle in certain Bonpo rituals: a comparison of three texts for the acquisition of good fortune (*g.yang*).

- 2010a The good, the bad and the ugly: the circumscription of saintly evil in Tibetan biography. In Linda Covill, Ulrike Roesler and Sarah Shaw (eds) *Lives Lived, Lives Imagined*. Boston: Wisdom Publications.
- 2010b Playing dice with the devil: a Bonpo soul-retrieval ritual attributed to Kong rtse 'phrul rgyal and its interpretation in Mustang, Nepal. In Samten Karmay and Donatella Rossi (eds) *Bon: the Indigenous Source for Tibetan Religion*. Special issue of *East and West*, vol. 59, nos. 1-4.
2010. History from below: an introduction to three archival collections from Mustang, Nepal. In H. Diemberger and K. Phuntso (eds) *Ancient Treasures*,

New Discoveries. Halle: International Institute for Tibetan and Buddhist Studies.

- 2008 A nineteenth-century Bonpo pilgrim in Western Tibet and Nepal: episodes from the life of dKar-ru grub-dbang bsTan-'dzin rin-chen. In Jean-Luc Achard (ed.) *Tibetan Studies in Honour of Samten Karmay*. *Revue d'études tibétaines* 15(2), 481-502.
(<http://digitalhimalaya.com/collections/journals/ret/index.php?selection=14>)
- 2007 Tsewang Rigdzin and the Bon tradition of sacred geography. In S. Karmay (ed.) *Bon: the Magic Word*. New York: Rubin Museum of Art.
- 2007 The Aya: fragments of an unknown Tibetan priesthood. In B. Kellner, H. Krasser, H. Lasic, M.T. Much and H. Tauscher (eds) *Pramanakirtih. Papers Dedicated to Ernst Steinkellner on the Occasion of his 70th Birthday*. Part 2. Wien: Wiener Studien zur Tibetologie und Buddhismuskunde, 681–718.
- 2006 Sacral kings and divine sovereigns: principles of Tibetan monarchy in theory and practice. In D. Sneath (ed.) *Power, Place and the Subject in Inner Asia*. Bellingham/Cambridge: Western Washington University.
- 2003a (With M. Kind) Bonpo monasteries and temples of the Himalayan region. In S.G. Karmay and Y. Nagano (eds) *A Survey of Bonpo Monasteries in the Himalaya*. Osaka: National Museum of Ethnology.
- 2003b (With N. Gutschow) Up and down, inside and out: notions of space and territory in Tibetan villages of Mustang, Nepal. In N. Gutschow, A. Michaels and C. Ramble (eds) *Sacred Landscape in the Himalaya*. Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- 2003c Article on Tibetan History in *Das Große China Lexikon* Hamburg: Institut für Asienkunde.
- 2002a The Victory Song of Porong. In K. Buffetrille and H. Diemberger (eds), *Territory and Identity in Tibet and the Himalayas*. Leiden: Brill.
- 2002b Temporal disjunction and collectivity in Mustang, Nepal. *Current Anthropology* 43, supplement, August-October.
- 2002c (with W. Holzner *et al.*) Integrated ecological studies of pasture problems in the Tibetan Autonomous Region, P.R. China. In H. Jianlin *et al.* (eds) *Yak Production in Central Asian Highlands: Proceedings of the Third International Congress on yak Held in Lhasa, P/R. China, 4-9 September 2000*. Nairobi: International Livestock Research Institute.

- 2001a Art without artists: Robert Powell's Mustang collection. In M. Oppitz (ed.), *Robert Powell: Himalayan Drawings*. Zurich: Völkerkundemuseum der Universität Zürich.
- 2001b (With P. Boyer) Cognitive Templates for Religious Concepts: Cross-cultural Evidence for Recall of Counter-Intuitive Representations. *Cognitive Science* 25 (4).
- 2001c The old sector system of Kagbeni: notes on the history of land use and social organisation. In P. Pohle and W. Haffner (eds) *Kagbeni—Contributions to the Village's History and Geography*. Giessen: Giessener Geographische Schriften 77.
- 2001d Household organisation and hierarchy in Kagbeni: the limits to cultural revival in a changing society. In P. Pohle and W. Haffner (eds) *Kagbeni—Contributions to the Village's History and Geography*. Giessen: Giessener Geographische Schriften 77.
- 2000 The secular surroundings of a Bonpo ceremony: games, popular rituals and economic structures in the *mDos-rgyab* of Klu-brag monastery (Nepal). In S. Karmay and Y. Nagano (eds) *New Horizons in Bon Studies*. Proceedings of a conference held in Osaka, August 1999. Osaka: National Museum of Ethnology.
- 1999 A literary biography of Michael Aris. *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* 17, 103-16.
- 1998a The classification of territorial divinities in Pagan and Buddhist rituals of South Mustang. In A.-M. Blondeau (ed.), *Tibetan Mountain Deities, their Cults and Representations*. Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- 1998b (with John Harrison)
Houses and households in Southern Mustang. *Ancient Nepal*, no. 140, 23-37.
- 1998c (with John Harrison)
Watermills in Mustang: notes on architecture, function and management. *Ancient Nepal*, no. 140, 39-52.
- 1998d The Mustang villages of Kag, Te and Khyinga: an introduction to history, ethnicity and the idea of place. *Beiträge zur Allgemeinen und Vergleichenden Archäologie*, Band 18. Mainz: Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 147-82.

- 1997a The Creation of the Bon Mountain of Kongpo. In A.W. Macdonald (ed.), *Mandala and Landscape*. Delhi: D.K. Printworld.
- 1997b Tibetan pride of place; or, why Nepal's Bhotes are not an ethnic group. In D. Gellner and J. Pfaff (eds), *Politics and Ethnicity in a Hindu Kingdom*. London: Harwood.
- 1997c Se: notes on the distribution of an archaic ethnonym in Tibet and Nepal. In S. Karmay and Ph. Sagant (eds), *Les Habitants du Toit du Monde*. Paris: Société d'Ethnologie, Nanterre.
- 1996a Patterns of places. In A.-M. Blondeau and E. Steinkellner (eds), *Reflections of the Mountain: essays on the history and social meaning of the mountain cult in Tibet and the Himalaya*. Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- 1996b Mustang, the ancient kingdom of Lo. *Asian Art and Culture* 9 (3), Fall 1996 (special issue on the Himalayas).
- 1995 Gaining ground: representations of territory in Bon and Tibetan popular tradition. *The Tibet Journal.*, Spring 1995.
- 1995 (with C. Seeber)
Dead and living settlements in the Shod-yul of Mustang. *Ancient Nepal* no. 138.
- 1994a Civic authority and agrarian management in southern Mustang: remarks on a nineteenth-century land-tax register from Kagbeni. *Ancient Nepal*, no. 135.
- 1994b Writings in Monochrome. *Himal*, July-September 1994.
- 1993a Rule by play in southern Mustang. In C. Ramble and M. Brauen (eds), *Anthropology of Tibet and the Himalaya* Zurich.
- 1993b Reflections of a plant-hunter in Nepal: an interview with Dr. Tirtha Bahadur Shrestha. *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research*, no. 5.
- 1993d Whither, indeed, the tsampa-eaters? *Himal*, September-October 1993.
- 1992-93 A ritual of political unity in an old Nepalese kingdom. *Ancient Nepal* nos. 130-133.

- 1990a The headman as a force for cultural conservation: the case of the Tepas of Nepal. In N.K. Rustomji and C. Ramble (eds), *Himalayan Environment and Culture*.
- 1990b How Buddhist are Buddhist communities? The construction of tradition in two lamaist villages. *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford* 21 (2), 185-97.
- 1987a (with M. Vinding) The 'Bem-chag village record and the early history of Mustang District. *Kailash* 13 (1-2), 5-48.
- 1987b The Muktinath Yartung: a Tibetan harvest festival in its social and historical context. *L'Ethnographie* 83 (100-101), 221-25.
- 1985 Buddhist people of the north Nepal borderland. In J. Locke, S. J. (ed.), *The Buddhist Heritage of Nepal*. Kathmandu.
- 1983 The founding of a Tibetan village: the popular transformation of history. *Kailash* 10 (3-4), 267-90.
- 1982 Status and death: mortuary rites and attitudes to the body in a Tibetan village. *Kailash* 9, 333-59.
- 1980 Recent books on Tibet and the Buddhist Himalaya. *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford* 11 (2).

5. Development reports

- 1998 (with P.B. Chhetri and J. Karki) Final Evaluation Report, Natural Resource Management Project, Mustang District. Kathmandu: CARE Nepal.
- 1996 (with Poul Christiansen) Local government in Upper Dolpa. Kathmandu: LTDA.
- 1990a (with C. Chapagain) Preliminary notes on the cultural dimension of conservation. Makalu-Barun Conservation Project working paper publication series report no. 10. Kathmandu: HMG / WMI.
- 1990b (with R.K. Nepali, K. Sangam and C. Chapagain) The Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation Community Resource Management Component. Kathmandu: HMG / WMI.