

## PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVES IN PARIS AND LONDON

BY PASCALE DOLLFUSS

### I. PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVES IN PARIS

*Photographic Library ("Photothèque"), Musée de l'Homme.*

*Pl. du Trocadéro, Paris 75016.*

The photographic library of the Musée de l'Homme currently includes some 2800 photographs, both black and white and slides, devoted to the Himalayas, in addition to the hundreds of photographs - not taken in account below - depicting the objects kept in the Musée de l'Homme ethnographic collections.

The photographs are classified first by country (India, Nepal, Pakistan) and then according to themes such as local inhabitants and costumes, settlements, landscapes, agriculture, herding, techniques, rituals and festivals, architecture and monuments, etc.

The old collection (before the 1930s.) includes :

- 28 photographs taken by Johnston & Hoffman c. 1880s. (cf. supra)
- 4 glass plates (1890-1904) captioned Annet (name of the author ?), Nepal.
- 2 studio-photographs taken before the 1930s. by H. Wentz in Kathmandu and captioned 'Deux jeunes femmes népalaises'.
- Dr. H.E. Kauffmann collection : approx. 370 photographs taken in the 1930s among different tribes of Naga in Assam and describing the Nagas' daily life and ceremonies.

In 1958, these collections were augmented by two donations :

- Gabrielle Bertrand collection on Assam : approx. 50 photographs depicting various tribes of the north-eastern Himalayas : Garo, Apa-Tani, Naga, etc..
- G. Pourcher collection on Nepal : 145 photographs taken in 1958 in Kathmandu Valley and Pokhara; the former including a set on the "coronation ceremonies of King Mahendra" (approx. 30 photos) and a set on goat sacrifice. (approx. 25 photos).

In the course of the years, however, the Himalayan section was expanded by photographic material collected in the 1960s, mainly in Nepal, by French anthropologists of the RCP Nepal based at the time in the Musée de l'Homme. Among them, special mention must be given to Corneille Jest and Philippe Sagant.

The Corneille Jest collection comprises more than 550 photographs taken in different parts of Nepal (Kathmandu Valley, Dolpo, Baglung, Langtang, Trisuli, etc.) among the Newar, Dolpo-pa, Tibetans, Magar, Thakali, Chepang...during 1960, 1963, 1965 and 1967 missions. C. Jest also provided photographs taken in Sikkim in the 1950s. (India drawers).

The Philippe Sagant collection consists of more than 730 photographs taken in 1966-67, mainly in eastern

Nepal among the Limbu, Rai, Chetri, Sherpa, Bhotiya and Sunuwar.

Both these collections encompass pictures of landscapes, architecture, techniques, agriculture, herding, trade, festivals, shaman practices, rites of passage, etc.

In addition to these major collections, once can find 350 photographs taken in 1965 by Jacques Millot, (director of the RCP Nepal) in the Kathmandu Valley, approx. 110 photographs (c.1966-67) by Mireille Helffer, related primarily to musicians castes, 45 photographs (1967-68) by Marc Gaborieau, 40 photographs taken in 1966 by Harka Gurung in the Upper Karnali Valley (Mugu, Tibrikot), a dozen pictures by Alexander. W. Macdonald (1967), a dozen pictures taken in the Terai as well as the Upper Trisuli Valley by R. Rieffel, at the time a diplomat in Kathmandu, 15 photographs taken in the 1970s by Albert Robillard and approx. 20 anonymous pictures concerning Kathmandu urbanisation c.1965-70.

The Ella Maillart collection (120 prints) taken all over the Himalayas and Tibet must also be mentioned. Finally, in 1981-82, 100 more photographs from the Kalash of the Hindu-Kush (Pakistan) were bought by the museum from the private collection of the photographer Hervé Nègre.

In addition to this black and white photographs, the Photographic Library has some 200 slides taken in 1969 by Solange Thierry in the Kathmandu Valley, and by the photographer Henri Bancaud in the Kathmandu Valley and Humla (north-western Nepal) c. 1980.

Besides these Himalayan collections, the photographic Library of the Musée de l'Homme also holds Tibet collections, including 35 photographs by Jacques Bacot, a great scholar who undertook several Asian expeditions which led him to eastern Tibet (1907) and various parts of the Himalayas (1913-14 and 1930-31), approx. 80 photographs by André Guibaut and Louis Liotard who undertook two expeditions along the Salween River up to the Go-log country in the bent of the Yellow River in 1936-37 and 1939-40, and 24 photographs from Alexandra David-Néel, who traveled widely in Tibet between 1914 and 1938, the bulk of the A.D.N. collection is kept in the Alexandra David-Néel Foundation, Digne, France.

### *Musée national des Arts Asiatiques-Guimet*

6 place Iéna, Paris 75116.

Photographic Librarian : Jérôme Ghesquières

e-mail : jerome.ghesquiere@culture. fr.

TheMusée Guimet will re-open in 1999-2000.

The photographic archives of the Musée Guimet comprise 320 slides on Ladakh and 3600 slides on Nepal, taken chiefly in the Kathmandu Valley and primarily concerning sites, architecture and monuments. In addition, the Musée Guimet possesses a quite large collection of black and white photos donated to the museum by Jean Mansion. This collection includes pictures taken in Tibet, Ladakh, Nepal and Bhutan.

## II. PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVES IN LONDON

### *India Office Library*

Oriental & India Office collections of the British Library.

St Pancras, Euston Road, London NW1.

OIOC collections are expected to move before spring '99.

e-mail : oioc-move@bl.uk

The India Office Library possesses a large collection devoted to the Himalayas. It is divided between the Reading Room and the Print and Drawings Department. For reasons of space, Tibet, Simla, Mussoorie and Darjeeling, and the "North Eastern Frontiers Provinces" of India (Assam, Arunachal P.) are excluded and only the most important collections are listed below.

### IOL Reading Room

#### *The J. Claude White Collection*

The IOL stores the bulk of the J.C. White Collection on Sikkim, Bhutan and Tibet. J.C. White (1853-1918) lived for 21 years in the Himalayan region. He was promoted to the post of political officer in charge of the administration of Sikkim in 1889 and of Bhutan in 1905. His photographic albums *Sikkim* (1902) and *Tibet and Lhasa* (1908), which contain some of the most amazing images of Tibet and the Himalayas, were published by Johnston and Hoffmann. Some of them, primarily portraits and groups of people, are also kept at the Royal Geographical Society.

#### *The Sir Charles Alfred Bell Collection*

This renowned collection encompasses more than 500 prints taken before the 1920s. The collection focusing primarily on Tibet, is divided among 4 boxes MSS. EUR F.80/282; 80/283; 80/284, 80/287 and two envelopes (MSS EUR F 80/288 a & b).

C. Bell (1878-1945) was a British administrator who spent many years from 1901 to 1918 in Darjeeling, Kalimpong, and Sikkim in the eastern Himalayas. From May to September 1904, he was fortunate enough to be able to push through Bhutan to Tibet, and was then in charge of the Chumbi Valley. Finally, in November 1920 in response to repeated invitations from the Dalai Lama, he went to Lhasa for nearly one year.

In addition to the large collection devoted to central Tibet (Lhasa, Ganden, Drepung and Gyantse), they are two sets concerning Sikkim and the Chumbi valley, and several prints devoted to Nepal as well as the Mishmi people and their settlements.

#### *The Francis Younghusband Collection*

MSS. EUR F.197/651. Two large format prints: one showing Leh bazaar c.1904 and the other, a group comprising the king of Ladakh along with monks dressed

for 'cham (monastic masked dances) and young men wearing velvet hats. The picture was probably taken during the Hemis festival.

#### *The Henry Lee Hadwen Shuttleworth Collection c.1910-1920.*

MSS. EUR. D. 722. This collection includes 2 boxes (D.722/29 and D.722/30) comprising black and white photographs taken by Henry Lee Hadwen Shuttleworth (c. 1910-1920) India's western Himalayas (Kulu, Lahul, Spiti and Ladakh). Unfortunately, captions and a numbering system are lacking.

MSS.EUR.D.772/29 displays 249 miscellaneous prints, including some views of Leh (Ladakh), temple interiors and masked dances, Buddhist monuments such as chorten and rock carvings, nomadic people (from Rupshu?), converted Christians, farmers, etc.

MSS. EUR. D. 722/30 consisted of 169 beautiful panoramic views taken in Kulu, Lahul and Spiti, including among many others a view of Kyi village in Spiti, of Kyelang in Lahul; the confluence of the Pin and Spiti rivers near Dangkar, the Bhaga valley, or the Tshomoriri Lake in Ladakh. Most of these photos are also kept in the Royal Geographical Society, but with captions. (*infra*)

#### *The F. Bournes Collection 1925*

Under MSS.EUR. E. 364 is kept in a box containing Sir F. Bournes' and his wife's papers, medals, diploms, water colours and an album of 120 photographs shot in 1925 during a one-month summer trek through "Indian Tibet" from Kulu to Srinagar across Lahul (Kyelang, Patseo, Baralacha pass) and Ladakh (Lingti plain, Lachalung pass, Debring, Gya, Upshi, Chuchot, Leh, Saspol, Nurla, Mulbek, Kargil and Zoji-la).

#### *The Sir Robert N. Reid Collection 1933-1941*

MSS. EUR. E. 278/86. An Album belonging to Sir Robert Niel Reid (1883-1964) and containing 488 prints concerning Bhutan and taken between 1933 and 1941.

#### *The Symon Alec Collection*

MSS. EUR E 367. Box 2. This box includes a diary along with an envelope of black and white photographs (without captions) of landscapes and monuments. A. Symon with his wife Dodo Symon undertook a journey from the Indian border to Kathmandu through the Terai in November 1947.

### IOL Prints and Drawings Department

This department stores about 160 photographs - mainly anonymous - taken in Baltistan, Ladakh, Darjeeling and Nepal between the last decades of the XIXth century and the first decades of the XXth.

#### *Baltistan and Ladakh*

1870s : 4 stereoscopic views of unidentified Ladakhi villages (Basgo, Thiksey and Shergol ?), one distant

view of the Buddhist monastery at Lamayuru, and one view of the Buddhist monastery at Thiksey.

1899 : a dozen prints showing the town of Khapalu, the Shigar Valley, shepherds huts and unidentified villages in Baltistan;

a dozen prints including yak as pack-animal; pitching camp in Ladakh; the Buddhist monasteries of Basgo and Hemis; Leh bazaar, palace and Muslim cemetery; chorten and prayer-walls; nomads' black tents in Chang-thang.

c.1928 : 60 pictures including a scenic view of the Shyok Valley, Leh town, Hemis and Lamayuru monasteries, ploughing in the Indus valley, yaks and sheep as pack-animals, Khalatse bridge, Wakha valley, Zoji-la pass.

#### *Mount Everest and "Himalayan range"*

About 35 views (including telephotographs) of Mount Everest, Kanchenjunga and "others snowy peaks and wooded hillsides in the Himalayas" taken between the 1860s and 1929.

#### *Nepal, Kathmandu Valley*

About 40 photographs from the Kathmandu Valley between the 1860s and 1901 including street scenes in Kathmandu, Bathing and Cremation Ghat at Pashupati, Durbar square at Patan and Bhatgaon, the Buddhist temple of Shimbhounath [Swayambunath]. Among the oldest are an anonymous picture of a man holding a sword untitled "Ramnath subovadur guide" (1860's), some beautiful views of the "valley and city of Kathmandu" and several very interesting "scenes from the Indra Jatra festival" taken in 1863 by C.C. Taylor.

#### *The Royal Geographical Society*

1 Kensington Gore

London SW7 2AR

Picture Librarian : Joanna Scadden

e-mail : pictures@rgs.org

The Royal Geographical Society displays an extraordinary collection of pictures devoted to the Karakorum, the Himalayas, and Tibet. Each print has a number : 030180, 088770, etc. and, usually, a caption specifying place, date and name of photographer. The photographs are filed by area, such as Kashmir, Nepal-Pakistan, India, Tibet. For example, if you want to learn about Ladakh, one must look in the Kashmir, India and Tibet drawers.

Concerning Western Himalayas, The RGS possesses a large collection of images (over 200 prints) from the period 1890-1933, concerning Baltistan and Ladakh. Some of the panoramic views of Lahul-Spiti by H.L.M. Shuttleworth (*supra*. IOL) are also kept there.

#### *Baltistan and Ladakh*

1890, Capt. A.F. Mockler-Ferryman : approx. 15 photos (Basgo, Lamayuru, Khalatse, Chemre, Leh, Wazir and officials, monks, Yarkandi merchants, wildlife,

game, etc.)

1896-1899, H.P. Deasy & A. Pike : 3 distant views of Leh and 6 pictures of Hemis monastery.

1900, Lieut. A.A. Crookshank : approx. 15 photos taken in Eastern Ladakh : Gya, Tsomorari, Tsokar, Debring, wild animals and hunting scenes.

1903, Capt. C. G. Rawling : approx. 50 photos taken throughout Ladakh, in Purig, Basgo, Leh (caravanserai, shoeing ponies, etc.), Changthang (nomads, wildlife, hunting).

1904, Jane E. Duncan : approx. 10 photos taken in the Shyok Valley showing petroglyphs and rock-carvings. J.E. Duncan took part in an archaeological excavation near Khalatse with A.H. Francke.

1906, Capt. C.M. Ritchie : a dozen small and poor quality prints on Leh, northern and eastern Ladakh.

1921, Miss G. Macklin : approx. 20 photos of people and landscapes from western Ladakh (Kargil, Mulbek, Wakha).

1923-25, Capt. E.L.G. Griffith Williams : more than 50 photos taken in western, central and eastern Ladakh (Kargil, Suru Valley, Lamayuru, Nurla, Phyang, Leh, Nyoma, Tsomorari and Pangong lakes).

1925, Col. R. Meinertzhagen : approx. 10 photos depicting Mulbek Chamba, Leh, Hemis monastery, Pangong Lake, Nubra and Shyok confluence.

1927, Dr. E. Trinkler : 2 photos of landscape taken in north-eastern Ladakh (Aksai Chin, Chang chenmo valley).

1928, Lieut. Col. C.H. Stockley : 5 photos taken at Leh and Hemis monastery.

1932-33, H. de Terra : 5 landscapes of Tsomorari and Pangong lakes.

#### *Nepal*

The photographs related to Nepal are filed within 2 'Nepal Pakistan' compartments according to their size, and few envelopes. Six large, red boxes are devoted to the Olfield collection.

1854-1860, *the Oldfield Collection* .

This unique historical collection contains, besides beautiful water-colours, a large set of exceptional photographs of landscapes and architecture taken c. 1850-60 in the Kathmandu Valley. Among the former, several pictures should be noted, such as the views of Kathmandu one taken from Swayambunath, the other from "Nagarjooon mountain", a view of Nuwakot and a view of "Bheemphety village at the foot of the Cheesepani Mountain, with a view of the Host of Cheesaghurie near its summit", dated January 1854.

Henry Ambrose Oldfield (1822-1871) was posted to Nepal in March 1850 as Residency Surgeon and remained there until his retirement in 1868.

1894 *Johnston & Hoffmann* : Several pictures including landscapes of Hetounda and Bimphedi, views of Kathmandu Valley, Newari women weaving, ...

1903. H.H. Hayden (from the Tibet Frontier Commission) : only one photograph of Mugu village and Western range from the East.

1926. Capt. J. C. Morris : approx. 100 photographs of landscapes, settlements and people taken in the Terai, central and eastern Nepal, including among others, splendid pictures of Ingla and Massiang villages, Magar women.

1924-26. Major W. Brook Northey. Numerous photographs shot in the Kathmandu Valley in 1924 and a set on Massiang village taken in 1926 during the journey in eastern Nepal with J.C. Morris.

1949-50. Tilman. Two main boxes comprising numerous small size photographs without any number or caption : Upper Kali Gandaki valley, Mustang ?; and 4 beautiful photographs taken in 1950 : "Looking up Marsyandi valley from Pisang" and "Kami river near Tange".

1978. Richard Ravensdale : a set of photographs taken during the Pokhara-Muktinath and Trisuli-Langtang trips.

In addition to these collections related to Ladakh and Nepal, the Royal Geographical Society offers a large collection, especially devoted to Sikkim, Bhutan and Tibet, and chiefly comprising photographs of Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan

#### *Tibet*

by Chandra Das (1879-08), G.R. Littledale (1895), Capt. Rawling (1903), Capt C.H.D. Ryder (1904), Percival Landon (1904), Sven Hedin (1906-08), Brig. Gen. G. Pereira (1910 & 1921-23), Capt. Noel (1913 & 1922), W. Pierdom (1914-1915), Major E.O. Wheeler (1921), E. Teichmann (1921 Eastern Tibet), Capt. H.R.C. Meade (1922), F. Kingdom Ward (1924, 1932-33, 1935 Eastern Tibet), H. Rutledge (1926, Western Tibet), Capt. M.R. Sinclair (1931), E.W. Fletcher (1931), J.L.R. Weir (1931) of Tibet, Sir G. Taylor (1935 S.E. Tibet & Assam), F. Spencer Chapman (1937).

#### *Sikkim*

by Chandra Das (1879-08), Rev. R.A. MacLeod (1926).

#### *Bhutan*

by J.C. White (1905), Capt. H.R.C. Meade (1922). And also several sets concerning *Karakorum valleys* (Gilgit, Astor, Hunza, Baltit, etc) and *glaciers* (Biafo, Baltoro...) by Major J.R. Roberts (1895, extraordinary photographs), G.J.F. Knowles (1902), J.B. Mackintosh (1905), A.R.B. Shuttleworth (1909), T. Longstaff (1910), C.P. Skrine (1922-24), G. Dainelli (1930), etc.

#### **National Army Museum**

Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea  
London SW3 4HT.  
Picture Librarian : P. Boyden

Only, a few photographs and films are kept there.

#### *Ladakh*

1873. Capt. E.F. Chapman. approx. 10 photographs taken in Leh city and in Panamik village (Nubra).

anonymous, c. 1905 : approx. 10 poor quality photographs depicting landscapes, Buddhist prayer walls and chortens, and monks taken in Nyemo, Saspol, Basgo, Fatula pass, etc.

#### *Nepal and Himalayan range*

1900-1909. An album including views of the Himalayas

1922. Everest Expedition

1933 5 photos, Houston Mount Everest Flight Expedition

Worth noting : a exceptional panoramic view (140 cm x 15) showing the northern slope of the Himalayas made from various photographs taken c. 1922-24 by Mr. Milward;

- an amateur film shot in the 1930s. by Lt. Col. W. Emsden-Lambert in Kulu, Kangra, and Mahili;

- and numerous photographs depicting colonial life in the hills (Mussoorie, Simla, Darjeeling).

#### **Royal Anthropological Institute**

Photographic Library

50 Fitzroy Street. London W1P 5HS.

The Royal Anthropological Institute boasts the P.A. Johnston and T. Hoffmann studio portraits of Tibetans and Nepalese : 60 portraits of "Natives" (full face, left profile or right profile) taken c. 1880s. Each print is 6" x 4" wide.

Johnston and Hoffmann (dates unknown) were the proprietors of a photographic studio in Calcutta and publishers of the J. Claude White albums. They had also established smaller studios along the border between Tibet and Nepal, where they specialize in photographing the local inhabitants (see in this volume the article of Pratyoush Onta).

The captions of the photographs mention : "Lepchas of Sikkim, Nepalese Black-smith caste or Kami; a Tibetan lady from Tashilhumpo wearing Lhasa style of dress; Newars; a Sherpa, a Tibeto-Nepalese, a Gurung of Eastern Nepal; Limbus; a Bhotiya; a Yakha; Mangars; a Tamang; Nepalese Rajputs; a Goldsmith caste of Eastern Nepal; a Murmi of Eastern Nepal; Jimdars or Khambus of Eastern Nepal ("one of the fighting tribes"), a Sikkimese "slave" or Gharti; a Nepalese cultivator caste Western Nepal wearing European cap".

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