

Editorial

The current issue of the *Bulletin* is a double issue that originated from the panel “Representing local history in the Himalayas”, which was convened by Gisèle Krauskopff and Martin Gaenzle during the 17th European Conference on Modern South Asia Studies in Heidelberg (on September 10-11, 2002). In effect, the *Bulletin* “sponsored” this panel with an eye to future publication, because we believe that the topic is an important one and we knew that the contributors would have something original and useful to say about it. The quality of the essays in this issue certainly confirms our assessment.

The *Bulletin* has a history of double issue, including number 12/13 in 1997 on Himalayan Music. We think that such double issues are quite useful. Sometimes they even become standard references for a particular field of research, and so we hope that this will not be the last such double issue.

This is the first issue of the *Bulletin* to be printed in Kathmandu, by Himal Books, and distributed from there. It may turn out to be a cheaper and more practical way of production and dissemination that is currently the case, especially since editorship changes countries every three years or so. In any case, this is a one-off experiment. Please let us know if you have any complaints (or compliments!) about the new system. The editing of the *Bulletin* remains in Heidelberg.

The editors wish to thank Susanne Kleinmann for her technical assistance.

Bo Sax

Managing Editor