

Monday, 19.02.2024; 4:15 - 6:00 pm CET

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Slavery in Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Nepal

Abstract:

This talk delves into the intricacies of slavery and other forms of dependency during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in Nepal, shedding light on a topic often overlooked in the historical narrative of the state. The discussion covers the typology of slavery, the role of slaves within the social order, and the processes of enslavement and emancipation. The analysis also focuses on the *Ain*, the state's first legal code promulgated in 1854, aiming to understand the extent to which it incorporated customary Hindu legal norms to regulate the complex system of slavery.

Bio:

Manik Bajracharya is a research associate in the project "Documents on the History of Religion and Law of Pre-modern Nepal" at the Heidelberg Academy of Science and Humanities. Born in Nepal, he moved to Germany after completing his PhD at the Aichi-Gakuin University in Japan. His publications include *Nepālikabhūpavaṃśāvalī: History of the Kings of Nepal, a Buddhist Chronicle* (co-authored with Niels Gutschow and Axel Michaels) and *Slavery and Unfree Labour in Nepal: Documents from the 18th to Early 20th Century*.