

Institut für Asien- und Afrikawissenschaften  
Zentralasien-Seminar

# Tibet-Kolloquium

Marie-Paule Hille  
(CECMC-EHESS, Paris)

**Muslim-Tibetan trade relations in Amdo, past and present.  
A case study of the Xidaotang merchants**



The anthropologist Marie-Paule Hille will present her research on the economic activities of a Chinese Muslim brotherhood called Xidaotang, which was founded by Ma Qixi (1857-1914) at the dawn of the twentieth century in Lintan (/Taozhou) in South Gansu. She will introduce the economic organization of the Xidaotang merchants during the early Republic as well as the Xidaotang's trading network in Tibetan regions which shaped Xidaotang – Tibetan relations both by long-distance caravan trade and political alliances. Also the role of the Xidaotang's trading company will be examined, which, under the corporate name Tian Xing Long 天兴隆, became an important player in the brokerage, transport, and sale of many types of goods, including wool. Furthermore, she will show how—after, the re-opening of Tian Xing Long at the end of the Cultural Revolution in the late 1970s—Xidaotang trading activities resumed in the same regions and how a new monopoly was established, this time on so-called 'silks and satins'. A discussion of the 'silk and satins' market in Maqu will highlight the present relationship between Xidaotang merchants and the Tibetan population and the role that their presumed shared history plays in it.

Mittwoch, 27. November 2013

**18.00 Uhr c.t.**

**Invalidenstr. 118, Raum 507 (S-Bahn Nordbahnhof, U6 Naturkundemuseum)**