

Institut für Asien- und Afrikawissenschaften
Zentralasien-Seminar

Tibet-Kolloquium

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'Clans' of Reb-gong: The *Tsho-ba* of a Tibetan Agricultural Village

This paper will present some preliminary conclusions of research into local village groups, so-called *tsho-ba*, in the culturally Tibetan area of Reb-gong (Tongren County, Huangnan Prefecture, Qinghai Province, PRC). These *tsho-ba* are reported throughout the Tibetan cultural realm, and in Amdo appear among both agricultural and nomadic populations. Our understanding of them is meager, however, as we lack detailed accounts of these groups for most areas. The literature we do have generally describes them only in passing and in vague, incomplete, or simply incorrect terms. This research therefore seeks to paint a localized picture of what these *tsho-ba* are and how they operate in a single village in Southern Reb-gong. This may go some way towards filling in a few gaps in our understanding of local social organization and kinship, and challenge the current use of labels such as “clan”, “tribe”, “patrilineality” and “exogamy” in describing these units. The current work is based on both field work and study of local literature, and seeks to draw together the groups' current operations with elements from their past.

Mittwoch, 22. Januar 2014

18.00 Uhr c.t.

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