

**Institut für Asien- und Afrikawissenschaften
Zentralasien-Seminar**

Tibet-Kolloquium

Daniel Berounský, Ph.D.

Institute of South and Central Asia, Charles University, Prague

The White Vulture Rock (Brag dkar bya rgod) and Kyangphag (sKyang 'phags) of Thewo (The bo), Amdo

The paper will introduce rather unknown region inhabited by Tibetans, which has been constituting the borderland between China and Tibet for centuries. Thewo (Tib. The bo, Ch. Diebu) was visited by several western explorers and missionaries by the beginning of the 20th century, but it is very little known these days. The main focus of the presentation will be on its holy mountain White Vulture Rock and legendary Bonpo sage Kyangphag (11th-12th centuries). He is generally believed to be the person who “opened“ a number of pilgrimage places through the Eastern part of Amdo. However, his surviving autobiography speaks only about his treasure revelation of Bon scriptures by the two holy mountains of Thewo. The region is full of his miraculous imprints (phyag rjes/ zhabs rjes/ gsang chab rjes) and springs he allegedly made to come forth. Thewo had started to be forcefully ‘buddhicized’ by the king of neighboring Cone (Co ne) since the 18th century and the Gelugpa monasteries of Lhamo Kirti (Lha mo kīrti) and Serthi (gSer khri) located north of Thewo continued spreading the Gelugpa version of Buddhism here later on. As a result, one can observe a number of pilgrimage places nowadays, which play significant role in the struggle between Bon and Gelugpa versions of Buddhism.

Mittwoch, 13. November 2013

18.00 Uhr c.t.

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