

Institut für Asien- und Afrikawissenschaften
Zentralasien-Seminar

Tibet Kolloquium

Einladung

Monia Chies
(Zentralasien-Seminar)

**Yushu Earthquake, Two Years After.
The re-formulation of an ethnographic investigation:
from the city reconstruction to the Gyana Mani
pilgrimage site renovation**

Two years after the “04.14 Earthquake” of 2010, the Tibetan area of Yushu (Qinghai Province, PRC) is today an open-air construction site, where most of the population live in tents and the city landscape is a forest of mechanical cranes and dust clouds.

Having directly observed Yushu before, during and after the 2010 earthquake, this lecture presents my most recent fieldwork undertaken during summer 2012.

The main focus of my PhD project is to investigate the history, social organization and post-earthquake reconstruction process of a small village situated 4 km from Yushu town, where 300 years ago a pilgrimage site called Gyana Mani was founded. Following the earthquake, this shrine-array with tens of thousands of carved *mani-stones* has become a fundamental starting point for the transformation of the entire valley into an Eco-tourist area. However, in order to understand the renovation dynamics within this smaller context, it has become necessary to investigate the state’s reconstruction agenda implemented in Yushu city, to which the village is intimately linked.

I will present different perspectives on the current re-building process, from spatial, to social and cross-cultural issues, as part of the process of re-formulating the next steps of my ethnographic inquiry.

Mittwoch, 31. Oktober 2012

18.00 Uhr

Invalidenstr. 118, Raum 507

(S-Bahn Nordbahnhof, U6 Naturkundemuseum)