Einladung zum

Tibet- und Mongolei-Colloquium

Dienstag, 4. Juni 2019: 18 (c.t.) – 20 Uhr

Neuer Ort: Hauptgebäude, Hörsaal VII (1. OG)

Tshe thar – Seter: Comparing life liberation rituals in Tibet and Mongolia

Maria Coma: PhD Student INALCO, Paris / Universität Barcelona

Expanding fortune, strengthening life:
Animal liberation practices among pastoralists of North Eastern Tibet

Among the horses, yaks and sheep that graze on the rangelands of the Tibetan plateau, some individuals enjoy a special status by virtue of which their owners refrain from selling and slaughtering them. Often marked by five-coloured silk ribbons hanging from their ears or manes, these tshe thar (life liberated) animals are excluded from market and community networks of reciprocity and become mediators of fortune and merit. Protecting their lives and keeping them in the herds is a way for pastoralists to act upon the health, longevity and prosperity of both humans and animals.

Angelina Vetter: B.A., Mongolistik Universität Bonn

„Masters of the Localities“
Consecration of animals among Mongolian and Turkic peoples

The ritual of liberating animals is a widespread phenomenon among nomadic pastoralists and city residents, Buddhist or non-Buddhist, across parts of the Asian continent. Mongolians practice seter (like tshe thar) in Outer and Inner Mongolia as well as in Southern Siberia. Similar to the Tibetan part, the practice manifests itself in a ritualized liberation of one individual for a lifetime. By marking the animal with a chadag or ribbons, the owner pledges not to kill or use it in any way. The Mongolia-related part of the talk will explore the modern implementation of seter, with some analysis of the past.

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