

more because they are either so advanced or so out of the way, in terms of their socio-economic existence, that contemporary development programs cannot touch and transform them?

Seeland fulfills his promise: he takes us to a village in the Shangri-La country, dream of many a Westerner, and he maintains that this is a) a place not in need of what is called development in that part of the world where journals such as this are published and read, and b) another place which will most probably not be allowed to maintain its course of subsistence (which, in fact, is described as a restricted type of subsistence).

However, Seeland first invites the reader to an introductory 38-page trip through rugged sociological lands. Having repeated this trip several times, the reviewer still feels that - though interesting and enlightening in several details - this introduction does not supply the reader with a sufficiently clear and manageable set of categories and socio-logical instruments for a better understanding of the major part of the study, the "Case study of a technological system" (pp.45-138).

Fortunately, this shortcoming does not seem to hamper the understanding and usefulness of the village study itself. Anybody who wants to improve her/his understanding of the basic issues and dynamics of the socio-economy of an agricultural subsistence village may profit from the detailed descriptions. This will probably be more true for laymen than for ethnologists.

In a time where subsistence culture thinking is becoming prevalent again in the industrialized countries, while subsistence agri-culture as the culture per se seems to be vanishing in the so-called developing countries, this study may be very valuable. It deserves circulation and discussion in the context of questions such as 'what is development', and 'how can mankind subsist'? As much as naive people like the reviewer may feel inclined spontaneously to help conserve the "valley that cannot be developed", one should perhaps think about the possibility of conserving or recreating technocultural subsistence systems in one's own environment.

Uwe Luck

RUEDI BAUMGARTNER: *Trekking und Entwicklung im Himalaya. Die Rolwaling-Sherpa in Ost-Nepal im Dilemma zwischen Tourismus und Tradition.* (Konkrete Fremde, Vol. 2). Diessenhofen (Switzerland): Verlag Rüegger, 1980. 252 pages, SFr. 28.-

The study "Trekking and Development in the Himalayas. The Rolwaling Sherpa in East Nepal in a Dilemma between Tourism and Tradition" offers rewarding reading for people who want to know more about conditions of life in remote parts of Nepal, and about interaction (past and future) between the people living

there and their foreign visitors (be they tourists or others).

On the basis of extended field visits and a very thorough analysis of relevant research work done and published in Nepal as well as abroad, Baumgartner presents his study in a language easy to read. This deserves grateful acknowledgement.

In brief, the following major topics are dealt with in the study: Part I: "Development Policy in Nepal and Tourism" (pp.5-30): an excellent introduction to relevant historical, political and agri-cultural facts. Part II: "Development and the Introduction of Tourism into Nepal's Economy" (pp.31-73): a comprehensive survey of available statistical data on tourism in Nepal, including even survey results on how trekking guides and porters perceive their clients. Part III: "Tourism and Social Change in Rolwaling: A Case Study" (pp.75-206): a very detailed account of relevant social and economic factors and their interrelated developments. Includes, for example, an analysis of the cultivation of potatoes, which the reader might not expect to find in this book. Part IV: "Development-Oriented Trekking Tourism? Preconditions, Potential, and Limitations" (pp.207-230): Besides presenting a three-stage model of tourism development, this final chapter summarizes the main points to be considered when talking about tourism and development in Nepal.

With all its facts and figures, identification of problems and analysis thereof, this book may serve as a model for socio-economic studies of development project target areas. Baumgartner proves that thorough work can open up the required perspectives for an understanding of a given situation. The reviewer is of the opinion that many problems of development work in Nepal could be avoided or reduced, if similarly detailed studies of the situation to be developed were made beforehand.

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KLAUS MYLIUS: *Geschichte der Literatur im alten Indien*. (Reclams Universal-Bibliothek, Bd. 1021). Leipzig: Reclam, 1983. 526 pages, DDR Mark 5.-

In this survey, Klaus Mylius, professor of Sanskrit in the university of Leipzig, deals with classical Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit literature. Dravidian and modern Indo-Aryan literatures as well as texts in Indian languages from outside South Asia have been excluded.

The introductory chapter looks at the problems of literary chronology and of the transmission of texts and gives an outline of Indian linguistic history. The main body of the work discusses in detail Vedic, epic and classical literature, philosophical and scientific texts, and the religious writings of Buddhists and Jains. Finally, the position of India within world literature and the dis-