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Century

JOHN BRAY-Early Protestant Missionary Engagement with the Himalayan Region and Tibet
CHRISTIAN HEYDE-The Early History of the Moravian Mission in the Western Himalayas: the Life and Work of Wilhelm and Maria Heyde; A. H. FRANCKE-Schools in Leh. Translated, with an Introduction by Gabriele Reifenberg; POUL PEDERSEN-Prince Peter, Polyandry and Psychoanalysis; JANET RIZVI-Trade and Migrant Labour: Inflow of Resources at the Grassroots; JACQUELINE FEWKES & ABDUL NASIR KHAN-Social Networks and Transnational Trade in early 20th Century Ladakh
NAWANG TSERING SHAKSPO-The Life and Times of Geshe Ye-shes-don-grup
ERBERTO LO BUE-Lives and Works of Traditional Buddhist Artists in 20th Century Ladakh. A Preliminary Account; FERNANDA PIRIE-The Impermanence of Power: Village Politics in Ladakh, Tibet and Nepal; CONTRIBUTORS; INDEX

Sommario/riassunto

Ladakh's geographic location between the Himalaya and Karakoram mountains has exposed it to competing political and cultural influences from India, Central Asia and Tibet. This book points to Ladakh's distinct local identity, but argues that its historical development can best be understood in a wider regional perspective. It contains twenty-five research papers from the International Association of Ladakh Studies (IALS), and draws on contributions from historians, art historians, linguists and anthropologists. Their sources include Ladakhi historical documents, comparative linguistic research, visual evidence from temple architecture and inscriptions, Mughal biographies, European travel accounts, government records, trade receipts, and local oral tradition. Taken together, the volume provides a much richer view of Ladakhi history than was previously available, and makes a significant contribution to the study of the wider Himalayan region.
