



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

Edward W. Bastian films of Tibetan Buddhism

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Edward W. Bastian films of Tibetan Buddhism
Date:	1981-1982
Identifier:	HSFA.1986.01
Creator:	Bastian, Edward W.
Extent:	Film reels (sound color; 44,000 feet; 16mm) 33 Videocassettes (sound color)
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Edward Bastian in 1986.

Preferred Citation

Edward W. Bastian films of Tibet, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Scope and Contents

Edited and outtakes materials from the films TIBETAN BUDDHISM: PRESERVING THE MONASTIC TRADITION and materials shot in 1981 of the Initiation into the Kalachakra Tantra by His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet, recorded in Dharamsala India and Madison, Wisconsin. Collection also contains sound recordings.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Buddhism
Dalai lamas
Rites and ceremonies

Types of Materials:

Sound films

Places:

East Asia
India
North America
South Asia
Tibet Region
Wisconsin

Container Listing

Kalachakra: Initiation and Transmission of Tibetan Buddhism to United States, 1981

Film reels (sound color; 40,000 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record documents Buddhism in Tibetan settlement communities in India, bringing Tibetan Buddhism to the United States by Americans and Tibetans, and building a temple in Wisconsin which includes interviews with those involved and the local community. The film also documents aspects of the first Kalachakra Initiation conferred in the United States. Project includes video documentation of the *mchod gar* dance.

HSFA 1986.1.1

The initiation into the Kalachakra Tantra by His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet video project, 1981

33 Videocassettes (18 hours; color sound)

Notes: Full video record is a detailed documentation of every step in the first Kalachakra in the United States including the preparation and the initiation as conferred by the Dalai Lama in Deer Park, Wisconsin July 1981. A series of archival research videotapes providing a detailed explanation of the complex preparations and rituals of the Kalachakra was created from this project.

HSFA 1986.1.4

Tibetan Buddhism: Cycles of Interdependence (Outtakes), 1982

Film reels (color sound; 14,000 feet)

Notes: Outtakes are from an edited film which is part of a series on Tibetan Buddhism created by Bastian during his research and teaching in Tibetan Buddhist studies. The footage was shot during the four seasons in Lukil Valley, Ladakh, India and is the first film portrait of the annual cycle of ritual interdependence between Buddhist monks, laity, deity-protectors, and nature. The film observes how Buddhist families incorporate ethical precepts, prayers, and rituals into their daily life for healing; planting and harvesting crops; and warding off evil spirits. Documented are subsistence practices in the high valleys of Ladakh and the Tibetan plateau as well as weaving, dyeing, pottery making, and the preparation of herbal medicines. Film concludes with documentation of the winter chaam, a festival dance of protector deities, and the torgyal, a ritual battle performed to dispatch evil forces. Also includes sound recordings.

HSFA 1986.1.2