



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the National Anthropological Film Center
films of Tibetan Buddhists in South India, 1979-1982

Cataloging supported by Smithsonian Institution Women's Committee

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	National Anthropological Film Center films of Tibetan Buddhists in South India
Date:	1979-1982
Identifier:	HSFA.1986.13SIND
Creator:	National Anthropological Film Center (U.S.) Dorjee, Ragma (Cinematographer) Maloney, M. Michael (Filmmaker) Maradol, Mathias
Extent:	Film reels (color sound; 162,774 feet) Linear feet
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from the National Anthropological Film Center in 1986.

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

National Anthropological Film Center films of Tibetan Buddhists in South India, 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

Collection consists of full film record and edited film documenting Tibetan Buddhist communities in South India. Collection also contains associated texts, still film, sound recordings, annotations (recorded narratives), production logs, and field notes.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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
- Buddhist monasteries
- Tibetans

Cultures:

- Tibetans

Types of Materials:

- Sound films

Places:

- India
- South Asia

Container Listing

Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Mundgod, South India, 1979

Film reels (color sound; 47,240 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record is a research film project shot in the Tibetan communities of southern India. Film footage includes the Offering of Long Life puja to Kyabji, Yamantaka ceremony, and Ceremony of Year Ending Propitiation Invocation at Gaden Shartse Monastery; the Gohe Samajha ceremony at Gaden Jangtse Monastery; the Monlam Chenmo ceremony, Chonga Shospa ceremony, and Ceremony of Matriya at Drepung Monastery; the New Year Incense Burning ceremony at Norbu Rhe; and the New Year ceremony at the Dalai Lama's palace, Mundgod, India. Footage also contains debating, *chaam dancing*, monastic daily life, and making of the Yamantaka mandala. The edited film BTSUNCHUN was produced from this footage.

Legacy Keywords: Language and culture ; Rites and ceremonies ; Religion Buddhism ; Buddhist monasteries ; Dance as part of ceremony ; Drums use of in religious activities ; Art, Buddhist ; Procession religious

HSFA 1986.13.9

Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Bylakuppe, South India, 1980

45 Film reels (8 hours 8 minutes; color sound; 35,470; 16mm)

[Video: Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Bylakuppe, South India, 1980, 1986.13.010.043, clip 1](#)

[Image\(s\): Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Bylakuppe, South India, 1980, still 1](#)

Notes: Full film record is a research film project documenting the Heruka, Drupa, and Mandup ceremonies and *chaam dancing* as practiced at the Tibetan Buddhist monasteries of Nyingmapa, Tashi Lunpo, and Gyumed in south India. Footage also documents a Tibetan opera performed by the Tibetan Drama and Dance Troupe.

Legacy Keywords: Language and culture ; Ceremonies monasteries India ; Monasteries monastic life India ; Dancing chaam dancing Tibetan India ; Refugees Tibetan India ; Instruments musical instruments

HSFA 1986.13.10

Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Orissa, South India, 1980

Film reels (color sound; 3720 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record created for the National Anthropological Film Center, Smithsonian Institution. Research film project documents the traditional Tibetan Ghesar Epic as danced in the Tibetan community of Orissa, India.

HSFA 1986.13.7

Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Hunsur, South India,
January 1981

Film reels (color sound; 25,419 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record is a research film project, shot at Tibetan Buddhist monastery Zonkar Choede, Hunsur, India. Film footage includes the Mahakala puja, making butter sculptures, making and consecrating masks, *chaam* dancing, and burning of the *torma*.

Legacy Keywords: Language and culture ; Religion Buddhism ; Rites and ceremonies ; Rituals ; Dance ceremonial ; Drums use of in religious activities ; Masks

HSFA 1986.13.8

Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Hunsur, South India,
November 1981

Film reels (color sound; 24,425 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record created for the National Anthropological Film Center, Smithsonian Institution. Research film project includes making a mandala, a ceremony celebrating the appointment of a new assistant abbot, and the Gohe Samaja ceremony filmed at the Tibetan Buddhist monastery, Gyumed, in Hunsur, India.

HSFA 1986.13.11

Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Hunsur, South India, 1982

Film reels (color sound; 25,200 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Full film record created for the National Anthropological Film Center, Smithsonian Institution. Research film project includes ceremonies, daily life activities, and tantric training filmed at the Tibetan Buddhist monasteries of Zonkar Choede and Gyumed in Hunsur, India.

HSFA 1986.13.12

[Heruka, 1980](#)

1 Film reel (25 minutes; color sound; 900 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film documents one day of a Tibetan Buddhist multi-day puja, Heruka, in Gaden Monastery, Mundgod, India.

Legacy Keywords: Language and culture ; Religion Buddhism ; Rites and ceremonies ; Buddhist monasteries ; Drums use of in religious activities

HSFA 1986.13.15

Btsunchun, 1981

1 Film reel (color sound; 400 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film was shot in Mundgod, India. The film documents young Buddhist students from Gaden Monastery studying, practicing dialectics, playing, and resting during their visit to Drepung Monastery, where they have gone to join the Molam Festival. The students are also shown practicing movement training at their own monastery. Film was made from the film project: Film Studies of Traditional Tibetan Life and Culture: Mundgod, South India, 1979.

Legacy Keywords: Language and culture ; Ritual monasteries
India ; Play as religious training India ; Festivals Molan India
HSFA 1986.13.14