



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Franz H. Michael and Eugene I. Knez
photographs and sound recordings relating to
Tibetan Buddhism in northeastern India, 1979

Sarah Ganderup

2015

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Franz H. Michael and Eugene I. Knez photographs and sound recordings relating to Tibetan Buddhism in northeastern India
Date:	1979
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.80-13
Creator:	Michael, Franz H. (Photographer)
Extent:	2 Sound tape reels (Sound recordings ; 7 inches) 35 Negatives (acetate) 441 Color slides
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Provenance

The slides were probably donated with or shortly before the audio tapes were made, circa 1980. The tapes were then transferred to the Human Studies Film Archives, circa 1986. They were transferred back to NAA in 2015.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Related film footage of the 800th anniversary celebrations, shot by Franz H. Michael, is held in the Human Studies Film Archives in HSFA 86.11.6.

Location of Other Archival Materials

The National Anthropological Archives holds the Eugene Irving Knez Papers.

Location of Other Archival Materials

The University of Washington Special Collections and George Washington University Special Collections hold Franz H. Michael's Papers.

Other Finding Aids

An inventory of the slides, prepared by Franz Michael, is available in repository.

Processing Information

The slides were previously cataloged under Photo Lot 91-1 and Photo Lot 91-29. They were determined to be part of accession 80-13 and numbered accordingly in 2015.

Processing Information

This collection was previously filed as MS 80-13. It was changed to a photo lot when the photographs were added in May 2015.

Preferred Citation

Photo lot 80-13, Franz H. Michael and Eugene I. Knez photographs and sound recordings relating to Tibetan Buddhism in northeastern India, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

Franz H. Michael (1907-92) was a specialist in nineteenth-century China and in Sino-Soviet relations. He taught at the National Chekiang University in China, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Washington, and the George Washington University (GW). Born in Freiburg, Germany, he served as an attache in the German diplomatic service until 1933, at which point he began working at the National Chekiang University in Hangchow, China. In 1938, he came to the United States, where he taught Chinese affairs and European history at Johns Hopkins University (1939-1942). From 1942-1964, he taught and served as assistant and acting director of the Far Eastern and Russian Institute at the University of Washington, and then taught and served as associate director and director of GW's Institute for Sino-Soviet Studies (1964-1972). Michael retired from GW in 1977.

Eugene I. Knez (1916-2012) was an ethnologist with a special interest in the culture of Korea. In 1945, he made his first trip to Korea as part of the United States Army; there, he served as the military chief of the Bureau of Culture in the Department of Education and assisted in the reestablishment of the National Museum of Korea and the founding of the National Museum of Anthropology (now the Museum of Korean Folklore). After serving in the United States on the staffs of the Peabody Museum at Yale University and the Washington State Museum, Knez returned to the Far East in 1949-1952 as a cultural affairs officer attached to the American embassy. He was later director of the United States Information Service office in Pusan and American regional public affairs officer for southern Japan. In 1959, Knez joined the Smithsonian's Department of Anthropology as its specialist in Far Eastern ethnology. In the 1960s he undertook an East China Seas program, which involved the study and comparison of the material culture in villages in Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and the Ryukyus. He retired in 1978.

Scope and Contents

Photographs made during celebrations of the 800-year anniversary of the founding of the Drikung monastery, from June through August 1979. They document Buddhist structures, religious dignitaries and Tibetans, dances, and various religious events. Franz H. Michael and Eugene I. Knez made the photographs in Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir; Rumtek and Gangtok, Sikkim; Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh; and one photograph each in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand and Rajpur (probably in Uttarakhand). The audio recordings, which may have been made by NAA, are recordings of Franz Michael commenting on the photographic slides in this collection and an associated film depicting the ceremony at the Ga-ngon Monastery in Ladakh, India.

Bibliography

Photographs published in Franz H. Michael, *Rule by Incarnation: Tibetan Buddhism and Its Role in Society and State*, Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1982.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 80-13

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Buddhism
- Buddhists
- Dance
- Monasteries
- Tibetans

Cultures:

- Buddhists
- Tibetans

Types of Materials:

- Photographs

Names:

- Knez, Eugene I. (Eugene Irving), 1916-2010

Places:

- Gangtok (India)
- Ladākh (India)
- Rumtek (India)