

CURRICULUM VITAE

Alexander von Rospatt

University Education

- **April 2001** Completion of the post-doctoral *habilitation* thesis, submitted at the University of Hamburg, entitled *The Periodic Renovations of the Thrice-Blessed Svayambhūcaitya of Kathmandu*. (Appointment as *Privatdozent*; *Venia Legendi* granted for "Indian and Buddhist Studies" [*Indologie und Buddhismuskunde*])
- **1988-1993** University of Hamburg: Ph.D with a thesis on *The Buddhist Doctrine of Momentariness* (published in 1995).
- **1985-1988** University of Hamburg: Master of Arts in Indology with Religious Studies and Tibetology as minor subjects.
- **1982-85** School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London: Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies with History

Academic Appointments

- **Since August 2003** Appointment as Professor of Buddhist and South Asian Studies in the Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley.
- **February 2002 - July 2003** Visiting Professor for Buddhist Studies (standing in for Prof. Ernst Steinkellner) at the Institute for South Asian-, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies at the University of Vienna.
- **September 2001 - December 2001** Visiting Numata Professor in Buddhist Studies at the University of California, Berkeley.
- **April 2001 - July 2001** Visiting Numata Professor in Buddhist Studies at the University of Oxford, Balliol College.
- **April 1993 - March 2001** Assistant Professor (*Hochschulassistent*) at the Institute for Indology at Leipzig University, Germany. (March 1997 - February 2000: Three year leave as German Research Council fellow for pursuing a research project in Kathmandu on the Svayambhunath stupa.)
- **February 1988 - September 1990** Appointment as researcher (*wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter*) at

Hamburg University, cataloguing manuscripts microfilmed by the Nepal-German Manuscript Preservation Project.

Grants, Awards and Honors

- Appointment as visiting professor (for 2014) at the International College for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies at Tokyo
- 2011/2012 Visiting Research Professorship at the Ludwig Maximilians University Munich – LMU
- 2008/09 Humanities Research Fellowship of the College of Letters and Science, University of California, Berkeley
- 2006/07 Faculty Fellow of the Townsend Center for Humanities at UC Berkeley
- 2006 Offer of the Chair for “Indology – Buddhist Studies” at the University of Hamburg (declined)
- 2005/06 Presidential Chair Fellow in the Program of the Office of Educational Development at UC Berkeley
- 2004 Second foreign scholar honoured for his contribution to the study of Newar Buddhism by the Yashodhara Mahavihara Asaha Sewa Samiti of Patan, Nepal
- 2003 Offer of the Chair of Indology at the University of Leipzig, Germany (declined)
- 1997-2000 Post-doctoral *habilitation* fellowship granted by the German Research Council.
- 1995 Grant of the German Research Council (DFG) for publishing *The Buddhist Doctrine of Momentariness. A Survey of the Origins and Early Phase of this Doctrine up to Vasubandhu.*
- 1994 Ernst Waldschmidt Prize for the best PhD thesis in the field of South Asian studies within the last five years.
- 1990-93 PhD scholarship granted again by the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes.
- 1983 Prize for the year's best student in the Religious Studies Program at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University.
- 1978-80 Scholarship granted by the "Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes," a body of the federal government of Germany, for studying at the United World College of the Atlantic in Wales.

Publications

Books

- *The Svayambhū Caitya of Kathmandu and its Renovations*. Lumbini: Lumbini International Research Institute, forthcoming in 2013 (ISBN 978-9937-553-06-3).
- *The Buddhist Doctrine of Momentariness. A Survey of the Origins and Early Phase of this Doctrine up to Vasubandhu*. (Alt- und Neu-Indische Studien 47). Stuttgart: Steiner. 1995. (US reprint forthcoming in 2013 with the Institute of Buddhist Studies and Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai America, Berkeley).

Articles

- “Buddhist Strategies of Keeping its Sacred Images and Shrines Alive. The Example of the Svayambhū-caitya of Kathmandu.” forthcoming in David Park and Kuenga Wangmo, eds., *The Proceedings of the Buddhist Art Forum convened by the Courtauld Institute of Art, London, April 2012*. London: Courtauld Institute of Art.
- “Newar Buddhism. The Survival of Indian Buddhism in Nepal,” forthcoming in *The Blackwell Companions to Buddhism. Vol. 1: Blackwell Companion to South and Southeast Asian Buddhism*, edited by Michael Zimmermann.
- “Altering the Immutable. Textual Evidence in support of an architectural history of the Svayambhū caitya of Kathmandu,” forthcoming in Franz-Karl Ehrhard and Petra Maurer, eds. *Studies in Honor of Christoph Cüppers*, 2013.
- “The Roots of Violence: Society and the Individual in Buddhism and Girard” (together with Jacob Dalton), forthcoming in Wolfgang Palaver and Richard Schenk, eds., *René Girard and World Religions/ East Lansing*, Michigan State University Press 2014.
- “Negotiating the Passage beyond a Full Span of Life. Old Age Rituals among the Newars,” forthcoming in *South Asia*, 2013.
- “The Mural Paintings of the Svayambhūpurāṇa at the Shrine of Śāntipur, and their Origins with Pratāpa Malla.” In Benjamin E. Bogin and Andrew Quintman, eds., *New Research in Himalayan Passages in Honor of Hubert Decler*. Somerville, MA: Wisdom Publications, forthcoming 2013.
- “The Mural Paintings of the *Svayambhūpurāṇa* inside Śāntipur and their History,” forthcoming in *Crazy Cloud*, vol. 2. 2013.
- “Remarks on the Bhāvanāmayī Bhūmiḥ and its Treatment of Practice.” In *The Yogācārabhūmi Treatise and Its Adaptation in India, East Asia, and Tibet*, edited by Ulrich Timme Kragh, Harvard Oriental Series vol. 75. Cambridge, MA: Department of South Asian Studies, Harvard University, 2013, pp. 852-871.
- “Past continuity and recent changes in the ritual practice of Newar Buddhism. Reflections on the impact of Tibetan Buddhism and the advent of modernity.” In *Revisiting Rituals in an Changing Tibetan World*. Edited by Katia Buffetrille. Leiden and Boston: Brill. 2012: pp. 209-240.
- “The Past Renovations of the Svayambhūcaitya,” in Tsering Palmo Gellek and Padma Dorje

- Maitland (eds.), *Light of the Valley. Renewing the Sacred Art and Traditions of Svayambhu*. Cazadero, California: Dharma Publishing, 2011, pp. 157-206.
- "The Newar Buddhist Rituals," in Tsering Palmo Gellek and Padma Dorje Maitland (eds.), *Light of the Valley. Renewing the Sacred Art and Traditions of Svayambhu*. Cazadero, California: Dharma Publishing, 2011, pp. 114-117.
 - "A Short Portrayal of Itum Bāhā as a Monastic Institution." in *Journal of Newar Studies* vol. 7 2010/2011 (Portland, Oregon: International Nepāl Bhāshā Sewā Samiti), pp. 25-34.
 - "Remarks on the Consecration Ceremony in Kuladatta's *Kriyāsaṃgrahapañjikā* and its Development in Newar Buddhism." in *Hindu and Buddhist Initiations in Nepal and India*, edited by Astrid and Christof Zotter. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2010, pp. 199-262.
 - "The Sacred Origins of the Svayambhūcaitya and the Nepal Valley: Foreign Speculation and Local Myth." *Journal of the Nepal Research Centre* vol. 13. Kathmandu: Nepal Research Centre 2009, pp. 33-91.
 - "Der nahende Tod. Altersrituale bei den Newars" (Facing Death: Rituals of Old Age among the Newars). In *Der Abschied von den Toten. Trauerrituale im Kulturvergleich*. Edited by Jan Assmann and others. Göttingen: Wallstein Verlag, 2005 (reprinted in 2008), pp. 199-222.
 - "Der indigene Buddhismus des Kathmandutals. Das Fortleben einer indischen Tradition am Rande des Himalayas" (The indigenous Buddhist tradition of the Kathmandu Valley. The survival of an Indic tradition at the edge of the Himalaya). In *Die Welt des tibetischen Buddhismus. (Mitteilungen aus dem Museum für Völkerkunde Hamburg. Neue Folge Band 36)*. Edited by Wulf Köke und Bernd Schmelz. Hamburg: Museum für Völkerkunde Hamburg, 2005, pp. 333-356.
 - "The Transformation of the Monastic Ordination (*pravrajyā*) into a Rite of Passage in Newar Buddhism." In *Words and Deeds: Hindu and Buddhist Rituals in South Asia*. (Ethno-Indology 1). Edited by Jörg Gengnagel, Ute Hüsken and Srilata Raman. Wiesbaden: Harassowitz, 2005, pp. 199-234.
 - "Impermanence and Time. The Contemplation of Impermanence (*anityatā*) in the Yogacara Tradition of Maitreya and Asanga." In: Walter Schweidler, ed.: *Zeit: Anfang und Ende. Ergebnisse und Beiträge des Internationalen Symposiums der Hermann und Marianne Straniak Stiftung*. Sankt Augustin: Academia Verlag, 2004, pp.75-91.
 - "Dīpamkara Buddha in Vienna". In *Lumbini. Journal of the Lumbini Nepalese Buddha Dharma Society UK*, vol. 6,1, 2003, pp. 4-7.
 - "Priesterliche Ritualchroniken aus Kathmandu als besonderer Fall südasiatischer Geschichtsschreibung" (Priestly chronicles from Kathmandu as a particular form of Southasian historiography). *Archiv orientální* 70,1 (2002), pp. 140-146.
 - "A Historical Overview of the Renovations of the Svayambhucaitya at Kathmandu." In *Journal of the Nepal Research Centre* 12 (2001), pp. 195-241.
 - "The Survival of Mahāyāna Buddhism in Nepal. A Fresh Appraisal." In *Buddhismus in Geschichte und Gegenwart*, vol. 5, Hamburg: Universität Hamburg (Weiterbildendes Studium), 2001, pp. 167-

189. (downloadable at <http://www.buddhismuskunde.uni-hamburg.de/Volume-6.48.0.html?&L=1>)
- "On the Conception of the Stūpa in Vajrayāna Buddhism: The Example of the Svayambhucaitya of Kathmandu." In *Journal of the Nepal Research Centre* 11 (1999), pp. 121-147.
 - "Einige Berührungspunkte zwischen der buddhistischen Augenblicklichkeitslehre und der Vorstellung von der Momentanheit der Akzidenzien (*'arad, a'rad*) in der islamischen Scholastik" (Some Commonalities between the Buddhist Doctrine of Momentariness and the Momentariness of the 'accidents' in Islamic scholasticism). In *Annäherung an das Fremde: XXVI. Deutscher Orientalistentag vom 25. bis 29. 9. 1995 in Leipzig*. Edited by H. Preissler and H. Stein, Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag (ZDMG-Suppl. 11), 1999, pp. 523-530.
 - "Pavitra tīrthasthala śrīśrīśrī svayambhūcaitya sambandhī vivādāspada dhāpu" in the original proceedings of the conference." [Abridged translation of the English paper "Conflicting Conceptions of the Śrīśrīśrī-Svayambhūcaitya as a Holy Shrine," presented at the "Conference on the Buddhist Heritage of Nepal Mandal" held in November 1998 in Kathmandu]. In *Nepalmandala-yā bauddha saṃskṛti sammelana 1199. Chagu prativedana* [= Proceedings of this conference published in Newari language], edited by Vajrarāja Śākya, Patan: Lotus Research Centre, 1999, pp. 129-138.
 - Review Article (co-authored with Maithrimurthi Mudagamuwa) in *Indo Iranian Journal* 41 (1998), pp.164-179, on Richard F. Gombrich: *How Buddhism Began: The Conditioned Genesis of the Early Teachings*. (Jordan Lectures in Comparative Religion XVII) London and Atlantic Highlands, N.J.: Athlone, 1996.
 - "Der Abhidharma." In *Buddhismus in Geschichte und Gegenwart, vol. 1*, Hamburg: Universität Hamburg (Weiterbildendes Studium) 1998, pp. 150-166. (reprinted in vol. 4, 2000; downloadable at <http://www.buddhismuskunde.uni-hamburg.de/Volume-1.41.0.html?&L=1>)
 - "When Did Śākyamuni Buddha Really Live?". In *Vaiśākha Mahotsava*, edited by Duṇḍabahādura Vajrācārya, Yala [Patan, Nepal]: Ratnākara Mahavihāra Lyāyamhaḥ Pucaḥ, 1998, pp. 77-84. (reprinted in *The Himalayan Voice* 2,2, Kathmandu June/July 1998, pp.19-23.)
 - Review Article in *Orientalische Literaturzeitschrift* 91,1 (1996), pp. 79-89, on Ghiorgo Zafropulo: *L'Illumination du Buddha. De la Quête à l'Annonce de l'Eveil*. Innsbruck: Verlag des Institus für Sprachwissenschaft der Universität Innsbruck (Innsbrucker Beiträge zur Kulturwissenschaft. Sonderheft 87) 1993.

Reviews

- Sarah LeVine and David N. Gellner: *Rebuilding Buddhism: The Theravada Movement in Twentieth-Century Nepal*. Reviewed in *Journal of Religion* 88,1 (2008): 137f.
- Gérard Toffin: *Les tambours de Kathmandou*. Paris: Payot & Rivages, 1996. Reviewed in *Kailash* 18,1&2 (1998), pp. 109-112.
- Marek Mejer: *Vasubandhu's Abhidharmakośa and the commentaries preserved in the Tanjur*. Stuttgart 1991. Reviewed in *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 145,1 (1995), pp. 198f.

- Harris, Ian Charles: The Continuity of Madhyamaka and Yogācāra in Indian Mahāyāna Buddhism. Leiden 1991. Reviewed in *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 144,1 (1994), pp. 219f.
- Cüppers, Christoph: The IXth Chapter of the Samādhirājasūtra. A Text-Critical Contribution to the Study of Mahāyāna-Sūtras. Stuttgart 1990. Reviewed in *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 144,1 (1994), pp. 220f.
- Tom J. Tillemans: Materials for the Study of Āryadeva, Dharmapāla and Candrakīrti. The Catuḥśataka of Āryadeva, Chapters XII and XIII, with the Commentaries of Dharmapāla and Candrakīrti: Introduction, Translation, Sanskrit, Tibetan and Chinese Texts, Notes. Wien 1990. Reviewed in *Orientalistische Literaturzeitschrift* 88,1 (1993), pp. 77f.

Contributions to Encyclopaedias and other Miscellanea

- "Die Abhidharmatexte. Das ganze Dasein erfassen," in *Tibet und Buddhismus. Magazin für Tibetischen Buddhismus im Westen*. Vol. 26.4, 2012: pp. 28-32.
- Obituary of Professor Bernhard Kölver, *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 159,1 (2009), pp. 5-14.
- "Report on the Conference "Nepal — Current State of Research and Perspectives" held in memory of Prof. Bernhard Kölver in June 2003 in Leipzig." In *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* 24 (2003), pp. 80-82.
- "Śvetāmbara". In *Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart*. Fourth Edition. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2003: Vol. 7, p. 1913. (Reprint in Religion Past and Present. Encyclopedia of Theology and Religion. Leiden: Brill)
- "Nepal". In *Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart*. Fourth Edition. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2003: Vol. 6, pp. 192-194. (Reprint in Religion Past and Present. Encyclopedia of Theology and Religion. Leiden: Brill)
- "Mahāvīra." In *Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart*. Fourth Edition. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2003: Vol. 5, p. 682. (Reprint in Religion Past and Present. Encyclopedia of Theology and Religion. Leiden: Brill)
- "Der Jinismus." In Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart. Fourth Edition. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2001: Vol. 4, pp. 596-598. (Reprint in Religion Past and Present. Encyclopedia of Theology and Religion. Leiden: Brill).
- "Momentariness, Buddhist Doctrine of." In *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. London: Routledge. 1998: vol. 6, pp. 469-473.
- "In Remembrance of Pandit Ratnakaji Bajracharya." In *Paṃ Ratnakājī Vajrācāryayā Smṛta Grantha*. Kathmandu: Dance Mandal, 2001, pp. 233-235.
- Introduction to Ratnakājī Vajrācārya: *Yeṃ deyā caitya. Vivaraṇātmaka adhyayana. (A Survey of the Caityas of Kantipur)*. Yala: Nepālamaṇḍalayā Bauddha Saṃskṛti Sammelana Āyojaka Samiti, 1998.