

ÉCOLE PRATIQUE DES HAUTES ÉTUDES

Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques

45-47, rue des Écoles – 75005 Paris

(entrée par le 17, rue de la Sorbonne, esc. E, 1^{er} étage, à droite)

Dans le cadre de la conférence de M. Fernand MEYER *Sciences et civilisation du monde tibétain*

M. Christopher BECKWITH

Professeur à l'Université de l'État d'Indiana

Directeur d'études invité

donnera quatre conférences sur le thème

Les populations de l'Eurasie centrale prémoderne et leur rapport aux cultures périphériques de l'Eurasie

1 – *Le comitatus et le tumulus : le complexe culturel de l'Eurasie centrale au Japon ancien, en France mérovingienne et dans l'empire tibétain. (The Comitatus and the Barrow: The Central Eurasian Culture Complex in early Japan, Merovingian France, and the Tibetan Empire)*

On the combination of cultural elements characteristic of Central Eurasian peoples from early historic times to the late Middle Ages and the significance of its attestation in peripheral regions such as Japan and France, paying special attention to its particular form in the Tibetan Empire and its implications for the understanding of the political and religious ideas current at the Tibetan imperial court.

2 – *Emprunts au chinois ancien en proto-tibétain et la question des dialectes du chinois ancien. (Old Chinese Loanwords in Proto-Tibetan and the Problem of Old Chinese Dialects)*

Early Chinese loanwords in Tibetan do not seem to follow regular correspondences. Loanwords such as Old Tibetan *'brug* [mbrug] 'dragon', *rma* 'horse' (from Proto-Tibetan *mra; cf. Old Burmese *mra*), *stag* 'tiger', and *sbra* 'bee' show that they must have been borrowed at different times or from different dialects of Old Chinese. The history of these and related words is discussed, the Chinese dialect characteristics are determined, and a new linguistic approach to the reconstruction of Old Chinese is outlined.

3 – *A propos du nom et de l'identité des Tokhares : la solution à une ancienne interrogation philologique et historique. (On the Name and Identity of the Tokharians: The Solution to an Old Philological and Historical Question)*

On the reconstruction of the Old Chinese transcription of the foreign name Yüeh-chih (*Yuèzhî*) and its contribution to the solution of several old problems, including the identification of the Yüeh-chih with the Toxaroi of Greek sources, the Tukhâra or Tuhkhâra of Sanskrit sources, and the Toxoara of the recently discovered Bactrian documents; the name of the Tokharian ('Tocharian') languages and peoples of the northern Tarim Basin; and the relationship of the Ch'iang (*Qiâng*) and Yüeh-chih in the southeastern Tarim Basin.

4 – *Sources centre-asiatiques de la scolastique du 13e siècle à Paris et au Tibet. (Central Asian Sources of Thirteenth Century Scholasticism in Paris and Tibet)*

On the Central Asian source of the unprecedented scholastic method that appears in the thirteenth century in Latin works by Alexander of Hales and other scholastics in Paris, and in twelfth century Tibetan works by Phyapa Choskyi Sengge and thirteenth century works by Saskya Pandita. The historical background of the transmission is given in some detail. Actual text samples are analyzed and compared, including translations of arguments written in Sanskrit by Sarvâstivâdin Buddhists (preserved in Chinese translation) and in Arabic by Avicenna (*Ibn Sînâ*) and Fakhr al-Dîn al-Râzî.

Les conférences seront présentées en anglais et auront lieu à l'EPHE, en Sorbonne, salle d'Égyptologie (escalier E, 1^{er} étage à droite), les jeudis 15, 22, 29 mai et 5 juin, de 18 h à 20 h.