

TSETAN (CHONJORE) NEPALI



Lecturer, Department of East Asian Languages, Literatures & Cultures
Title: Director of Tibetan Language Studies

Advanced Tibetan Language studies with Geshe Ngawang Jinpa (Professor, St. Joseph's College), Darjeeling, India.

Research Interests

Clarifying the similarities and differences between literary and Lhasa colloquial grammar; Contextual teaching methodology; Tibetan culture.

Biography

I have been involved in Tibetan language instruction since 1983 as an instructor, lecturer, research fellow, director, and coordinator of various Tibetan language initiatives in Nepal, the United States and Canada.

I have always been interested in Tibetan language since I went to a Tibetan school and later studied Tibetan at the University level too. My main motivation behind teaching Tibetan language has been to preserve this rich and unique language, as well as culture. From the very beginning of my teaching career I have been interested in writing a detailed grammatical analysis of the Lhasa colloquial that would help students as well as instructors. With the growing interest in Tibetan studies and seeing the need of imparting this language pedagogically, I went through the process of writing a book. After several years of research and interaction with Tibetan language scholars as well as students I came out with the first volume of my book in 2003. Currently I am working on the second volume of this book.

Publications

Colloquial Tibetan: A textbook of the Lhasa Dialect. Published by Library of Tibetan Works & Archives, Dharamsala, India, 2003.

"Contextual ambiguity."

Presented at the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of Nepal, November 26-27, 1994.

"Tibetan: A non-tense language."

Presented at the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of Nepal,
November 26-27, 1993.

"On the partial formal syncretism of categories of clause structure in Lhasa Tibetan"
[with Mr. Asif Agha]. Presented at the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society
of Nepal, Tribhuvan University. November 26-27, 1987. Published in *Nepalese
Linguistics*, 1988.

Colloquial Tibetan, Volume II: A textbook of the Lhasa Dialect.
(A book in progress)

Personal Interests

Teaching and learning musical instruments

Music composition

Observation of changes in Tibetan language

Sports (Soccer in particular)