

THE EAST ASIA CENTER PRESENTS

A TALK BY

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***THE BORDERLANDS OF POSTCOLONIAL  
INFORMAL EMPIRES: TIBET IN CHINA***

CHARTING THE HISTORY AND POLITICS OF INTRODUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF IDEAS AND PRACTICES OF SOVEREIGNTY, LIBERATION, BUFFER STATE, AND BORDER, I WILL ARGUE THAT TIBET'S STRATEGIC LOCATION HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED THROUGH AN INTERACTION BETWEEN IMPERIAL HISTORIES, SHIFTING GEOPOLITICS, AND POSTCOLONIAL STATE FORMATION IN CHINA AND INDIA. WHAT ARE THE MAIN STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR THE TWO ASIAN COUNTRIES IN THE HIMALAYAN REGION? IT IS NOT THE PRESENCE OF MANY TIBETAN EXILES IN INDIA BUT THE LEGACY OF TRADITIONAL TIBETAN POLITY ON BOUNDARY ISSUE THAT IS A SOURCE OF TENSION IN CHINA-INDIA RELATIONS. THE LECTURE WILL OFFER A NEW PERSPECTIVE BY ASCRIBING THE SENSITIVITIES OVER THE BORDER TO A COMBINATION OF TIBET'S STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE (MILITARY, ECONOMIC, ECOLOGICAL) TO CHINA AND INDIA'S EVOLUTION INTO WHAT I CALL 'POSTCOLONIAL INFORMAL EMPIRES'.

DR. DIBYESH ANAND IS A READER (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR) IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT WESTMINSTER UNIVERSITY IN LONDON. HIS PUBLICATIONS ARE IN THE AREAS OF GLOBAL POLITICS, TIBET, CHINA, HINDU NATIONALISM, AND SECURITY. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF GEOPOLITICAL EXOTICA: TIBET IN WESTERN IMAGINATION (UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS, 2007) AND HINDU NATIONALISM IN INDIA AND THE POLITICS OF FEAR (PALGRAVE MACMILLAN, FORTHCOMING). HE IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON A BOOK CHINA'S TIBET, A RESEARCH PROJECT ON SINO-INDIAN BORDER REGIONS, AND MAJORITY-MINORITY RELATIONS IN INDIA AND CHINA.

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