

**Beyond Biography: New Perspectives  
on Tibetan Life-Writing**  
**Wolfson College, Oxford, 28–29 September 2012**



**FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER**

**9:00 Coffee and Registration**

**Morning session 9:30–13:00**

9:30

Hermione Lee: *Welcome address*

9:45

Elleke Boehmer and Laura Marcus: *Dialogue on autobiography*

10:15

David Templeman: *Nested autobiography: Life writing within larger works*

11:00

**Coffee**

11:30

Samten Karmay: *The life-writing of the Fifth Dalai Lama (1617-1682)*

12:00

Isabella Ofner: *Processes of reselving: Subjectivity in Rinchen Dolma Taring*

12:30

Ulrike Roesler: *Tibetan reflections on autobiographical writing*

13:00

**Lunch**

**Afternoon Session 14:00-16:30**

14:00

Charles Manson: *Multifarious lives in all times: A consideration of Karma Pakshi's various lifetimes as recounted in a recently discovered text*

14:30

Lewis Doney: *Exile and the kingdom in early Tibetan hagiographies*

15:00

***Coffee/Tea***

15:30

Agata Bareja-Starzyńska: *Is the Mongolian way a Tibetan way? Reflections on the basis of the biography of the First Khalkha Jetsundampa, Zanabazar (1635-1723) as narrated by Zaya Pandita Luvsanprinlei (Blo bzang 'phrin las, 1642-1715)*

16:00

Alex Gardner and Asha Kaufman  
*Treasury of Lives – an Introduction*

***Dinner in the Cherwell Boathouse  
followed by exotic entertainments***

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**SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER**

**9:00 Coffee**

**Morning session 9:30–12:30**

9:30

Sarah Shaw: *Writing about the trackless: A twentieth-century Southern Buddhist biography of Venerable Ācariya Mun Bhūridatta Thera*

10:00

Cécile Ducher: *From song to biography and from biography to song: The use of mgur in Mar-pa's rnam thar*

10:30

***Coffee***

11:00

Hildegard Diemberger: *rNam thar as geographical biography*

11:30

Jim Rheingans: *Popular Tibetan rnam thar in contemporary usage: Case studies of narratives as performative texts*

12:00

Jeff Watt: *Visual models of biography in Tibetan art*

12:30

**Lunch**

**Afternoon Session 14:00–16:45**

14:00

Hanna Havnevik: *Traces of female voices and women's lives in Tibetan male biographical writing*

14:30

Heather Stoddard: *A life in two parts. A lags Grol lo (1948-2008), 'Lord of the Teachings' of the Reb kong mantrin community (Reb kong sngags mang gi bstan pa'i bdag po)*

15:00

**Coffee/Tea**

15:30

Charles Ramble: *Hagiography and biography in life writing about sacred objects*

16:00

Cathy Cantwell: *Reincarnation and personal identity in the lives of Tibetan masters: Linking the revelations of the three lamas of the Dudjom tradition*

*More exotic entertainments  
followed by dinner in Hertford College*