Background Reading for Educators

Ama Adhe: The Voice That Remembers

see description in Grades 9-12 section

The Anguish of Tibet

see description in Grades 9-12 section

Approaching Tibetan Studies: A Resource Handbook for Educators

By Jon Garfunkel and Tibet Education Network

An extensive collection of curricular and resource materials produced for teaching in K-12 and adult education. Included in the packet: why teach & learn about Tibet, curricular ideas for Tibetan studies, essential questions, maps, facts, historical timeline, suggested bibliographies, videography, resource information, on-line resources, and ideas for broadening one's Tibetan experience.

Paper. 53 Pages. Tibet Education Network at Global Source, 1999.

The Autobiography of a Tibetan Monk

see description in Grades 9-12 section

Bearing Witness: A Zen Master's Lessons in Making Peace

By Bernie Glassman

A powerful story about the experience of bearing witness and making peace one moment at a time. The author, who founded the Zen Peacemaker Order, describes leading retreats at Auschwitz and on the streets of New York City. He explains the practice of engaged spirituality and lessons learned that we all can apply to our lives.

Paper. 213 Pages. Bell Tower, 1998.

The Buddhist Handbook

see description in Grades 9-12 section

Buddhist Symbols in Tibetan Culture

see description in Grades 9-12 section

A Cultural History of Tibet

By David Snellgrove & Hugh Richardson

Widely considered an authoritative, thorough history of Tibet, commonly used as a college text. Hugh Richardson, one of the authors, was a British diplomat in Tibet between 1936-50. With maps, charts, and b & w photos. This book is out of print.

Cloth.. 279 Pages. Praeger, 1968

Demystifying Tibet: Unlocking the Secrets of the Land of Snows

see description in Grades 9-12 section

The Dragon in the Land of Snows: A History of Modern Tibet Since 1947

By Tsering Shakya

This thoroughly researched history, based entirely on unpublished primary sources, examines Tibet from the beginning of the Chinese occupation through the present. It offers many first accounts of political details on all sides of the Tibet-China conflict, and helps the reader examines the realities of the Tibetan situation. This scholarly work adds an important contemporary Tibetan voice to the current English version histories of Modern Tibet. The author was born in Tibet and attended the School of Oriental and African Studies where he is currently a research fellow in Tibetan Studies.

Cloth. 574 Pages. Columbia U. Press, 1999

Ethics for the New Millenium

By His Holiness The Dalai Lama

The Dalai Lama discusses a Buddhist view of ethics with a universal lens for addressing global issues in the next century and beyond. This book is a great pathway to engage a dialogue in any classroom or educational circle about the human condition and what it takes to cultivate humanity in a global society, from one who is felt by many to be one of our greatest models. Its no accident this book was a NY Times Bestseller for months.

Cloth. 237 Pages. \$24.95

Feminine Ground: Essays on Women & Tibet

see description in Grades 9-12 section

Freedom in Exile: The Autobiography of The Dalai Lama

By Tenzin Gyatso, The Fourteenth Dalai Lama

The most recent autobiography of The Dalai Lama documenting his remarkable life from childhood through the 1980's. Full of engaging personal reflections, historical accounts, meetings with world leaders, and the spiritual strength that has kept him focused on his responsibilities as a religious and political leader campaigning to regain his homeland.

Paper. 271 Pages. HarperCollins, 1990.

In Exile from the Land of Snows

see description in Grades 9-12 section

In The Footsteps of Gandhi: Conversations with Spiritual Social Activists

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Inner Revolution: Life Liberty, and the Pursuit of Real Happiness

By Robert Thurman

One of the leading scholars of Tibetan Buddhism examines the how the social movement of Buddhism and establishment of monastic institutions, or "enlightenment factories", transformed ancient India, and then Tibet, from warrior to wisdom societies. Through this exploration of the history of civilization, Thurman presents a model for transforming contemporary society.

Paper. 322 Pages. Riverhead Books, 1998.

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Translated by Lobsang Lhalungpa

The classic biography of a revered Buddhist yogi who lived in Tibet during the 11th century. This tale of spiritual life has served model for contemplative life. Translated by a well-respected Tibetan scholar into a simple modern English that reflects the power of the original text.

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By Donald Lopez

A recently published cultural history of the encounter between Tibetan Buddhism and the West, exploring the western imagination which has been captured by the ancient culture, wisdom, and exotic nature of Tibet. This well-respected Tibetan Buddhist scholar argues that our romantic with Tibet ultimately imprisons those who seek the goal of Tibetan independence from Chinese occupation. Paper. 275 Pages. U. Chicago Press, 1998.

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By Melvyn Goldstein

A recently published analysis, by a leading western Tibetan scholar, of the Tibet-China relationship examining the historical and current positions of The Dalai Lama, the Chinese government, and western powers with a look to the future of Tibet. Paper. 145 Pages. U. California Press, 1997.

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see description in Grades 9-12 section

Tibet: The Issue is Independence see description in Grades 9-12 section

Tibet: My Story

By Jetsun Pema

The autobiography of The Fourteenth Dalai Lama's younger sister. She tells of her life in Tibet before the Chinese occupation and describes the formation of the Tibetan exile community in Dharamsala, India. During the early years of the Diaspora in she was given the responsibility of starting the Tibetan Children's Village and later became the first woman minister in the Tibetan Government in Exile. An excellent look at the value of education in the struggle for cultural survival. Paper. 245 Pages. Element, 1997.

The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying

By Sogyal Rinpoche

From one of the great Tibetan masters teaching in the west, a commentary on the Tibetan view of death and dying based on teaching s from The Tibetan Book of the Dead. This book is a treasure of wisdom that transcends Buddhist thought to help one come to terms with death in order to live a more spiritually meaningful life. A New York Times Bestseller.

Paper. 425 Pages. Harper San Francisco, 1992.

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By Warren W. Smith, Jr.

A detailed history of Tibet which offers one of the most comprehensive accounts of Tibetan nationalism, Sino-Tibetan relations, and the issue of Tibetan self-determination. The author explores Tibet's ethnic and national origins, the birth of the Tibetan state, the Buddhist state and its relations with China, Tibet's quest for independence, and the Chinese takeover of Tibet after 1950. The author is a well-known independent scholar, currently working for the Tibet Service of Radio Free Asia. Paper. 732 Pages. Westview Press, 1996.

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Freedom Chants from the Roof of the World

The Gyuto Monks, Philip Glass, Mickey Hart, Kitaro

Two meditative, ritual chants by the world famous Tibetan monks of Gyuto Tantric University (India) during their first 1988 American Tour. Both are over 25 minutes. The third track is a composition by Philip Glass, Mickey Hart, and Kitaro performed during a concert by the Gyuto Monks at Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. Informative liner notes.

CD/Cassette. 68 minutes. Rykodisc. 1989.

Quiet Mind: The Musical Journey of a Tibetan Nomad

Nawang Khechog

This world musician remembers his Tibetan nomadic roots with nine soothing, meditative instrumentals, playing a Tibetan bamboo flute, didgeridoo, and Incan pan pipes. Great for reflective activities or quieting a classroom.

Cd/Cassette. 55 Minutes. Sounds True. 1991.

Renewal: Contemporary Tibetan Folk Songs

Chaksampa

Twelve Tibetan Songs about the experience of exile performed in a traditional folk style. Chaksampa is one of the premier Tibetan arts groups in the Diaspora, who work to preserve their cultural heritage through music and education.

Cd/Cassette, 55 Minutes, Sounds True, 1991.

Sacred Tibetan Chants of the Great Prayer Festival

Monks of the Drepung Loseling Monastery

Five recordings of sacred chants traditionally performed during the Monlam Chemo, or Great Prayer Festival, a religious celebration held in Lhasa, Tibet since 1409, which celebrates events dating back to original Buddhism. The Drepung Monastery traditionally helped lead this religious event. Cd/Cassette. 55 Minutes. Sounds True. 1991.

Tibet: Heart of Dharma

This CD and booklet introduce listeners to the "Buddha's teachings and the music they inspired" through the Tibetan monastic chant and music. Four recordings feature the monks of Drepung Monastery (India) and the fifth selection feature the monks Khampagar Monastery (India). The booklet covers the basics of Buddhism, major figures and deties within the Tibetan tradition, and background of the two featured monasteries.

CD & 64 Page Booklet. 62 Minutes. Ellipsis Arts. 1996.

Approaching Tibetan Studies

Suggested Source Materials

Tibet, Tibet

Yungchen Lhamo

Ten devotional and traditional offerings by one of the divas of Tibetan song. Since Yungchen Lhamo escaped Tibet in the 1980's, she has used her beautiful voice to tell the world of her country's plight. Since she signed on with Peter Gabriel's Real World label, she has become an international artist educating people about the Tibetan spirit and struggle for survival. You can find a story on Yungchen Lhamo for young adult readers in Faces magazine (Oct. 1999).

CD. 47 minutes. Real World. 1996.

Videography

Ancient Futures: Learning from Ladakh

Based on the work of Helena Norberg-Hodge. The ancient Tibetan culture of Ladakh, in the Himalayas of Northern India, struggling between tradition and way of life and modern development. *Themes: Ecology, Environment, Sustainability, Patterns of Life*

Documentary. 60 minutes. Int'l Society for Ecology & Culture. 1993.

Compassion In Exile: The Story of The 14th Dalai Lama

An award winning film, by Mickey Lemle, about the life of The Fourteenth Dalai Lama and overview of the current situation in Tibet, including many interviews. *Themes: Biography, Human Rights, Cultural Survival, History, Exile Experience, Compassion*

Documentary, 60 minutes. Lemle Pictures, 1992.

Dalai Lama: Soul of Tibet

A historical and contemporary look at the life of The Fourteenth Dalai Lama. Produced by CBS News for the A&E biography series. *Themes: Biography, History, Tibet-China Relationship* Documentary, 50 minutes. A&E Home Video. 1997.

Dreams of Tibet

Examination of the western imagination and current popular culture surrounding Tibet compared with reality of the current Tibetan situation. Produced for PBS Frontline. Hosted by Orville Schell. *Themes: Myth , Media, Foreign Interest in Tibet*

Documentary, 60 minutes. Frontline/PBS, 1997.

Home to Tibet

A Tibetan exile living in the United States returns to visit his family in Tibet, then leaves with his niece whom he takes to a Tibetan refugee community in India for their formal education. A film by Alan Dater and Lisa Merton. Themes: Exile Experience, Current Tibetan Situation

Documentary, 55 minutes, Marlboro Productions, 1995.

Inside Tibet

Rare black and white footage of the 1942 trip to Tibet by United States OSS (former CIA) Officers Brooke Dolan and Ilia Tolstoy, sent on fact finding mission during WWII by President Roosevelt. They receive warm Tibetan hospitality and meet the young Dalai Lama. Themes: Tibet prior to Chinese Occupation, Traditional Culture and Society of Lhasa

Documentary. 39 minutes. 1943.

Kundun

The story of The Fourteenth Dalai Lama from his birth in 1935 to his escape into exile in 1959, during the Chinese occupation of Tibet. Authentic recreation of life in Tibet starring an all Tibetan cast. A Martin Scorcese film, written by Melissa Mathison. Themes: Biography, History, Tibet-China Relationship, Non-violence, Compassion, Leadership

Feature Film. 135 minutes. Touchtone Pictures, 1998.

Little Buddha

A young boy from Seattle is identified as the incarnation of a Tibetan Lama, interspersed with flashbacks to scenes from the life of the historical Buddha in ancient India. A Bernado Bertalucci Film, shot on location in Seattle, Kathmandu, and Bhutan. Themes: Tibetan Buddhism & Monastic Culture, Historical Buddha, Tibetan Diaspora

Feature Film. 123 minutes. Miramax Films. 1994.

Mandala: The Sacred Circle of Vajrabhairava

Follows the construction of a Tibetan Buddhist Sand Mandala, with a detailed introduction of this sacred process and its meaning. Includes segment of a 3-D computer animated mandala. *Themes: Tibetan Buddhist Culture, Buddhist Philosophy, Tibetan Religious Art*

Documentary, 35 minutes. South Mountain Productions, 1997.

Mustang: The Hidden Kingdom

Journey of a high Tibetan Lama from Dharamsala, India sent by the Dalai Lama to the Tibetan Kingdom of Mustang, in Nepal to teach and find two young children to bring back to India for a formal education. Produced for the Discovery Channel, narrated by Harrison Ford. *Themes: Tibetan Diaspora, Traditional Tibetan Culture, Tibetan Buddhism, Geography*

Documentary. 90 minutes. The Discovery Channel. 1994.

Red Flag Over Tibet

Chronicles the Tibetan situation from Chinese invasion through 1992 APEC Conference. Visits to Tibet, Dharamsala, and US. Interviews with political figures connected with Tibetan issues. *Themes: History, Current Tibetan Situation, Human Rights, Geo-Politics*

Documentary, 60 minutes. Frontline/PBS, 1993.

Seven Years in Tibet

The story of Austrian mountain climber Heinrich Harrer who, after escaping from a WWII British Interment Camp, makes his way to Lhasa, Tibet and develops a close relationship with a young Dalai Lama, at the time of the Chinese Communist Revolution and invasion of Tibet. Authentic recreation of traditional Tibetan society. Directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud. Themes: History, Traditional Tibet, The Young Dalai lama, Cross-Cultural Relationship

Feature Film. 136 minutes. Mandalay Entertainment. 1997.

(The Original) Seven Years in Tibet

A 1950's British documentary of Harrer's journey to Tibet (see above), using original color film of Tibet taken by Harrer in 1949-50. A mix of dramatic re-creation and actual footage. *Themes: Rare Footage of Tibet prior to the Chinese Occupation*

Documentary, 79 minutes. Seven League Production, 1957.

Tashi Jong: A Traditional Tibetan Community in Exile

An award winning documentary, by Barbara Green, about villagers from a community in the Kham Province of Tibet who flee their homeland after the Chinese occupation and resettle as a community in the foothills of Northern India. The Iama who arranges this resettlement named their village Tashi Jong or Auspicious Valley, and helped create a self-sustaining Tibetan enclave in exile. The film offers a model for the sustainability of traditional culture, once insulated from the outside world, now redefining itself in a modern world. A valuable cross-cultural source for teaching students about elements and patterns of culture and the growing trend of vanishing traditional culture. Grade 5 & up. Themes: Traditional Culture, Exile Experience, Diaspora, Sustainability, Education, Cultural survival.

Documentary, 45 minutes. Tibetan Video Project. 1999.

Tibet: The End of Time

Examination of Tibetan Civilization and Current Tibetan Situation. Part of Time Life's "Lost Civilizations" Series. Narrated by Sam Waterson. Themes: Civilization, Traditional Culture, Buddhism, History, The Dalai Lama, Exile Experience

Documentary, 48 minutes, Time-Life Video, 1995.

Tibet in Exile

Follows a group of young Tibetan children who have escaped from Tibet and their introduction and socialization into the Tibetan exile community of Dharamsala, India. A film by Barbara Banks and Meg McLagan. *Themes: Exile, Migration, Diaspora, Education, Human Rights, Cultural Survival* Documentary. 30 minutes. Tibet in Exile Video Project. 1991.

Some of these videos may be available to rent or purchase through your local video store. All of these videos are available for local rental through Tibet Education Network. Some can be purchased through the Tibet Education Network at Global Source. Others are available through the Snow Lion Catalog (800) 950-0313. Many can be rented from the Office of Tibet (212) 213-5010. An extensive annotated list of Tibet-related videos can be accessed on-line at: <www.tibet.com>.

Many of the books, videos, music, and periodicals can be found through Tibet Education Network in The Global Source Lending Library (for Puget Sound Area Educators) or through The Global Source Catalog (see our contact information at the end of this handbook).

Resources on the World Wide Web

Art of Tibet (Tibetan Buddhist Paintings): www.TibetArt.com

The Dalai Lama's 1989 Nobel Peace Prize: http://mirror.nobel.ki.se/laureates/peace-1989.html

Escape into Exile (documenting Tibetan refugees fleeing Tibet): www.savetibet.org

Free Tibet Campaign (London): www.freetibet.org/index.htm

Human Rights in China (New York): www.hrichina.org

People's Republic of China (Embassy, Washington DC): www.china-embassy.org/

Sakya Monastery of Tibetan Buddhism (Seattle): www.sakya.org

Tibet Education Network: www.GlobalSourceNetwork.org

Tibet Environment Watch (San Francisco): www.tew.org

Tibet Information Network (London): www.tibetinfo.net/

Tibet Online Resource Gathering: www.tibet.org/

Tibetan Government in Exile (Official Site): www.tibet.com/

Tibetan Studies Resources (Australia): www.ciolek.com/WWWVL-TibetanStudies.html

World Tibet News (Canada): www.tibet.ca