

Einladung zu einem Gastvortrag

von

Herrn Dr. Lewis Doney

(Dr. Lewis Doney is a philologist and scholar of Buddhist Studies. Since receiving his PhD from SOAS in 2011, he has been engaged in postdoctoral research on Tibet at LMU, Munich and FU, Berlin. His publications include a book titled *The Zangs gling ma: The First Padmasambhava Biography*. (International Institute for Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, 2014). He currently researches reflections of India in early Tibetan Buddhist historiography as part of the European Research Council-funded project “Asia Beyond Boundaries” at the British Museum.)

über das Thema

Philological Insights into the Cult of Padmasambhava in Tibet

The Indian Buddhist master Padmasambhava is one of the foremost culture heroes of Tibetan literature. He is remembered to have converted Tibet to Buddhism in the eighth century, and his life-story has thus exerted a huge influence on later Tibetan ritual, mythology, lineage legitimation, art, songs and dances. This talk will look back into the earliest appearances of Padmasambhava in Tibetan historiographical literature, focusing on the various versions of the *Testimony of Ba (dBa’/sBa bzhed)* of unknown authorship and the *Copper-Island Hagiography (Zangs gling ma)* by Nyang ral Nyi ma ’od zer (1124–1192). These works have been fundamental to many Tibetans’ sense of their own history, and yet they offer different representations of Padmasambhava that betray a transformation in the image of the tantric master, and his relationship with the Tibetan emperor Khri Srong lde brtsan (742–c.800). Moreover, both works were redacted and adapted by successive generations of Tibetan scholars, who included increasingly positive depictions of Padmasambhava within their narratives, reflecting a growing “cult of Padmasambhava” in Tibet.

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11.01.2017

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16:00 Uhr

ESA-Ost, Raum 120

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