

Guest Editor:  
Surinder M. Bhardwaj  
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Kent, Oh. 44242

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

Carolyn Prorok asked me to edit and send this issue of the GORABS Newsletter your way, since she will be out of the country for a while, mostly in Korea, on a research leave. "Here I am, in Japan, visiting the 88 pilgrimage places (this is #5) with Tanaka's paper in hand...Best wishes for a good semester, and a good AAG", says her message on a beautiful postcard. Regrettably, she will not be able to attend the AAG meeting at San Diego. We will miss her especially at our first business meeting, an event she had worked so hard to bring about.

In his January 16, 1992 letter, in response to Executive Director Ronald Abler's letter of January 3, 1992, Reg Golledge informed me that Tom McKnight (AAG Program Committee member) from U.C.L.A. will be chairing the first meeting of GORABS Specialty Group. But in his February 4, letter he writes that Tom McKnight will be out of the country and, therefore W.V.A. Clarke will chair our Specialty Group's first meeting and supervise the election of officers. Reg wishes our "new Specialty Group much success in its endeavors."

"The first item of business", says Ron Abler's letter, "will be the election of officers, and as soon as that is done, the program committee member's duties are over." I guess we have to elect our officers. To facilitate this process, I have attached to this GORABS Newsletter a copy of the document, "Guidelines for the formation and functioning of Specialty Groups" (10 December 1991). Please read all the items, but especially items 11 through 16, and the Standing Rules Governing Specialty Groups.

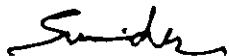
In addition, please note that the Specialty Group Chair is required to submit a report to the AAG before May 31, 1992. Please keep the Chair appraised of your academic activities so that annual reports reflect what they should, the accomplishments of the Group.

### Membership

Along with the Executive Director Ronald Abler's February 1992 letter, were enclosed two items of interest and concern -- A check for \$62.00 and our membership list. The check for \$62.00 reflects the number of persons who checked GORABS Specialty Group on their membership form. Since our membership fee was initially set at one dollar, it means that "62 members (48 regular, 14 students) elected membership" in our Group up to 14 February 1992. This number is of concern to me and should be to each one of us. We are no doubt an active, albeit, a small band -- as yet. We should try to bolster our membership to at least over the century mark. This will mean not just involvement, but firm commitment to making GORABS a Group of Excellence; a group whose research interests output are attractive to others, especially to younger colleagues and graduate students. We should increase the number of our paper session -- from two in 1992 to three or four in 1993.

### ACLS Deserves Our Support

In his letter of 25 February, 1992, Ronald Abler has drawn attention to research opportunities that a Group like ours has through ACLS Fellowships. A copy of Ron's letter is enclosed. We must collaborate with other groups "in supporting ACLS lobbying for increased funding". Please read this letter, and we will discuss it in our business meeting. I have already promised this much to Ron Abler in my E-mail reply to his letter. By the time we meet at San Diego, I will have talked to at least two other Specialty Groups, and will be able to give you some feedback. Until then, Best Wishes!



Surinder M. Bhardwaj

Acknowledgements: First, I would like to thank Dr. Milton Harvey, Chairman, Department of Geography for permitting the use of departmental resources and his support. Deborah Walker and her staff have been very helpful in getting this newsletter out to you. Carol Cameron, Ph.D. student has been of much help in the layout and typing of the newsletter. As a dedicated member of GORABS, her service is appreciated.

NEWS FROM HOME AND ABROAD

From Great Britain:

Adrian Cooper informs that he has received his Ph.D. degree. Congratulations, Dr. Cooper! The title of his dissertation is "Landscape, Place and Personal Attitudes Toward Christian Commitment." University of London, 1991. Adrian has a review article in the forthcoming issue of Area, dealing with "Key Themes for Debate Within Religio-Geographical Literature".

From Korea:

Carolyn Prorok will be in the Republic of Korea from February 17 to July 6, 1992 at the Kangweon National University as exchange faculty, teaching and doing research. Look for her article on Hinduism in Trinidad in the Fall 1991 issue of Caribbean Geography. Carolyn's address in Korea is:  
c/o International Education Office  
Kangweon National University  
Chuncheon 700-201  
Republic of Korea FAX: 82-36151-9556

From India:

Rana P.B. Singh, Reader, Banaras Hindu University (Co-Editor, National Geographical Journal of India) has sent me titles of his many recent and forthcoming publications related to geography of religions. Among them are:

"Nature and Cosmic Integrity: A Search in Hindu Geographic Thought." GeoJournal, vol. 26 (2), 1992.

Sacred Journey, Ecology of Place and Faithscape.  
Association of Pilgrimage Studies, Cultural Traditions of India Series. Tara Book Agency, 1991.

Varanasi, Social Personality of India's Cultural Capital.  
Association of Pilgrimage Studies, Cultural Traditions of India Series. Tara Book Agency, 1992.

Varanasi, Sacred Cartography of Space, Time and Culture.  
Association of Pilgrimage Studies, Cultural Traditions of India Series. Tara Book Agency, 1992.

For a full list of his publications and edited works you may write to him at:

Dr. Rana P.B. Singh, Director  
Varanasi Studies Foundation  
No. B29/12A Lanka. Varanasi, UP 221005-INDIA

From Japan

Masayasu Oda, Komazawa University, Tokyo sent me a reprint of his paper. "Geographical Perspectives on the Study of Shugendo, A Japanese Mountain Religion." The paper was published in Regional Views #4, March 1991. Tokyo Institute of Applied Geography, Kamazawa University.

From Canada:

Allan Gleason, Professor of Linguistic, University of Torondo has written a letter of support for GORABS. Thanks to his and other's efforts, the "Group" is now official as Carolyn Prorok reported in the Fall newsletter. Thanks Allan!

From California:

Susan Hardwick (California State University, Chico) has sent a list of her recent publications of interest to GORABS members. She is also presenting a paper at the AAG as part of the Soviet and East European Specialty Group's special session entitled "God and Glasnost: Soviet Christian Emigres on the Pacific Coast", and finishing a scholarly book, Russian Refuge: Religious and Ethnic Persistence on the North American Pacific Rim to be completed this Spring. Susan's publications are:

"Russian Religious Settlement on the North American Pacific Rim," Geographical Snapshots of North America. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers Unviversity Press, 1992.

"The Impact of Religion on Ethnic Settlement: Russian Settlement: Russian Old Believers in Alaska," The California Geographer, Vol. 31, 1991.

With Donald Holtgrieve. "Relics of a Time of Turbulence," The Californians' Vol. 28, 1991.

From Corvalis:

Mary Lee Nolan and Sydney Nolan attended the "World Congress on the Pastoral Care of Shrines and Pilgrimages" in Rome, February 26-29, 1992.

From Connecticut:

The editors of The Resouce Publication Series of the AAG are seeking proposals for new monographs. Contact Ellen Cromley or Robert Cromley co-editors at The University of Connecticut, Department of Geography, Storrs, CT. 06269-2148.

**AAG ANNUAL MEETING: SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 18-22 APRIL 1992**

**Geography of Religions and Belief Systems Specialty Group:  
Religion: Space, Symbol and Experience  
Monday, April 20, 1:30 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.**

Organizer: Surinder M. Bhardwaj, Kent State University  
Chairs: Surinder M. Bhardwaj, Kent State University  
Linda K. Fischer-Pittman, College of William and Mary

- 1:30p -Linda K. Fischer-Pittman, College of William and Mary. Taize, Burgundy's Ecumenical Monastery;  
1:45p -Joseph J. Hobbs, University of Missouri. Miracles in the Creation and Maintenance of Sacred Places at Mount Sinai;  
2:00p -Adrian R. Cooper, Birkbeck College. Religio-geographical Experience Among Young People;  
2:15p -Surinder M. Bhardwaj, Kent State University. Religious Symbolism, Nationalism and Territoriality;  
2:30p -Susan Grabiell, CSU, Fullerton. The Sun Now Rises In the West: A New Locus for the Lotus;  
2:45p -Mary Lee Nolan, Oregon State University, Mary Smith-Nolan, Oregon State University. Semana Santa: Video as a Medium of Translation.

**Geography of Religions and Belief Systems Specialty Group  
Spatial Dynamics of Religion  
Monday, April 20, 3:25 p.m. 5:05 p.m.**

Organizer: Surinder M. Bhardwaj, Kent State University  
Chair: Surinder M. Bhardwaj, Kent State University  
Barbara A. Weightman, CSU-Fullerton

- 3:25p -Barbara A. Weightman, CSU-Fullerton. Change and Continuity in the Religious Landscapes of the Los Angeles Region;  
3:40p -Gail S. Sechrist, Indiana University of PA. Where Have All the Churches Gone?  
3:55p -Thomas A. Tweed, University of Miami. Our Lady of the Exile: Devotion at a Cuban-American Shrine and the Landscape of Contemporary Miami;  
4:10p -Peter L. Halvorson, University of Connecticut, William M. Newman, University of Connecticut. Changes in American Jewish Settlement Patterns: 1980-1990  
4:25p -Lorraine Guay, Laval University. Evolution of Cemeteries in Quebec;  
4:40p -Cecyle Trepanier, Laval University. Church Shopping and Church Swapping: The New Influence of Protestant Churches in French Louisiana.

Other sessions and papers of interest to GORABS members.

**Session: Cartography Specialty Group/Cultural Geography  
Specialty Group: Cartography and Culture I.  
Alternating Visions of the World.  
Sunday, April 19, 8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.**

8:00a -David J. Nemeth, University of Toledo. A Cosmographic Interpretation of Medieval Korean Geomancy Maps

8:30a -Joseph E. Schwartzberg, University of Minnesota. An Eighteenth Century Cosmographic Globe of India.

**Session: Human Rights, Political, Population Specialty  
Groups: Geography of Human Rights in the Middle  
East. Sunday, April 19, 8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.**

8:45a -Ghazi Falah, University of Northern Iowa. Patterns of Shared Space Among Arabs and Jews in Mixed Towns in Israel.

**Session: Cultural Geography of Everyday Life.  
Sunday, April 19, 9:55 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.**

10:40a -Yosseph Shilhav, Bar Ilan University. Landscape Building in Jewish Religious Perspectives: The Israeli Case.

**Session: Culture and Ideology.  
Sunday, April 19, 1:30 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.**

1:45p -Timothy S. Oakes, University of Washington. Geography and the Spiritual Raft.

**Session: Geography and the Bible Specialty Group: Geography  
and the Bible. Tuesday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.-3:10 p.m.**

1:35p -Gordon R. Lewthwaite, CSU-Northridge. Both Sides of the Jordan Rift: Settlement Patterns in the Biblical Era.

1:55p -Jonathan J. Lu, University of Northern Iowa. Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Biblical Solution?

2:15p -Amy N. Mather. The Geography and the Bible Specialty Group: Retrospect and Prospects.

The following is a list of theses and dissertations (from the most recent AAG directory) supplied by Carolyn Prorok which will be of interest to GORABS members:

Cornebise, Michael W. "Geographical Aspects of Social and Economic Changes Among the Belizean Mennonites: Twenty Years after Sawatsky," Master's Thesis, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, 1990.

Greiner, Alyson Lee. "Geography, Humanism and "Plain People" in Missouri: The Case of the Dunkard Brethren," Master's Thesis, Department of Geography, University of Missouri: Columbia, 1990.

Lee, Emily M. "Vietnamese Catholics: Making Places in Baton Rouge," Master's Thesis, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, 1990.

Mansberger, Joe R. "Ban Yatra: A Bio Cultural Survey of Sacred Forests in Kathmandu Valley," Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Geography, University of Hawaii, 1991.

Mills, James. "Spiritual Landscapes: A Comparative Study of Burial Mound Sites in the Upper Mississippi River Basin and the Practice of Feng Shui in East Asia," Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota, 1990.

Quaintance, Alice Marie. "People Without Places: The Reponse of Capitol Hill Churches to the Homeless," Master's Thesis, Department of Geography, University of Washington, 1991.

Sen, Anindita. "A Comparative Study of Religious Communities in India: With Particular Reference to the Muslims," Master's Thesis, Department of Geography, University of Akron, 1991.

Sosaia, Kakaumotu Naulu. "Incidental Effects of Church Activity on Development, Landscape and Culture: An Example from Tonga," Master's Thesis, Department of Geography, Brigham Young University, 1990.



# Association of American Geographers

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Ronald F. Abler, Executive Director

25 February 1992

Professor Surinder M. Bhardwaj  
Department of Geography  
Kent State University  
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Surinder:

Julian Wolpert, the AAG's delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies, has repeatedly expressed concern during the last several years over the small or nonexistent number of geographers who apply for ACLS Fellowships. In addition to missing out on chances for funding, geography's failure to seek such opportunities makes it look as if the discipline is not concerned with the humanities. The implications extend beyond ACLS, because many of the programs ACLS operates are run jointly with the Social Science Research Council.

I think Julian's suggestion that several AAG Specialty Groups collaborate in supporting ACLS lobbying for increased funding should be discussed and acted upon. Please consult your officers about that idea. Perhaps we can find a mutually convenient time to respond to Julian's suggestion in San Diego. I'll have a look at the membership data base to see which members of your specialty group live in the Chicago area.

Thanks.

Sincerely,

Ronald F. Abler  
Executive Director  
BITNET: ABLER@GWUVM

cc: J. Wolpert  
J. Wood

P.S. Enclosed is the 1992 Council Report on the National Humanities Alliance (Joe Wood, Representative)

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1992 Report to AAG Council: National Humanities Alliance

Representative: Joseph S. Wood, George Mason University

1. Activities:

NHA is a coalition of 70 scholarly and other organizations formed to unify the public interest in support of federal programs in the humanities. The alliance provides a central clearinghouse for communication about government support of the humanities. It orchestrates as well representation for member organizations in support of humanities appropriations and other legislative actions regarding the humanities.

During 1991, NHA continued its support for increased funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). As in 1990, much legislative attention was directed toward appropriate levels and types of funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The matter, legislative debate on which will continue in 1992, involves restricting content of funded arts projects, which has affected NEH by association between the arts and humanities. The outcome, nevertheless, was a slight increase in NEH funding, bringing that funding to parity with funding for NEA for the first time.

NHA also provided testimony on the needs for more resources to support national faculty fellowship programs and for development of a dissertation fellowship program at NEH. Both of these actions could enhance a much underfunded part of the discipline of geography.

Also during 1991, NHA took a strong stand, with ACLS and MLA among others, to defeat the nomination of Carol Iannone to the National Council on the Humanities (which oversees NEH grants). NHA based its position on a lack of qualifications, but was attacked for taking a political position on the nomination. NHA, however, supported strongly the replacement nomination of Duke University English Professor Kenny Williams, who is no less conservative politically.

The council will have a large number of positions open in the next year. The NHA has taken a position that reaffirms the original legislative mandate that the council "provide a comprehensive representation of the views of scholars and professional practitioners in the humanities and of the public throughout the United States".

2. Proposed work.

I will continue to monitor NHA communications for information of concern and interest to geographers. I would like to attempt an occasional column for the AAG Newsletter highlighting NHA positions, and I request council's approval in principle of such a column, leaving editorial judgement to the executive director.

3. Other information.

Although our involvement has been slight, our presence among the other scholarly organizations in the NHA can only be positive for geography.

SUGGESTED OUTLINE FOR AAG SPECIALTY GROUP 1991 REPORTS

- I. Please review the statement that appears on the specialty group listing that accompanies renewal forms and membership applications. Let us know if any changes are necessary.
- II. Provide the names and addresses of officers and their terms of office (must have chair, secretary, and treasurer).
- III. Last year's accomplishments.
- IV. Activities scheduled for the coming year.
  - A. Annual meeting sessions, workshops, field trips, etc.
  - B. Newsletters or other publications.
  - C. Other.
- V. Brief history of specialty group (include major events and awards)
- VI. Future plans and directions.
- VII. Membership and participation (numbers, percentage that are active, degree of cohesiveness and enthusiasm).
- VIII. Financial Report.
  - A. **Account Information:** Name of Account, ID Number (FEIN or SSN), and Name and Address of Bank.
  - B. Income for 1991: SG dues, other. If applicable, please list special services provided to members.
  - C. Expenses for 1991 (itemized).
  - D. Estimated income and expenses for 1992.
  - E. Estimated income and expenses for 1993.
- IX. Special requests or questions for Council.

PLEASE INCLUDE WITH YOUR REPORT COPIES OF YOUR NEWSLETTERS FOR THE PAST YEAR. THANK YOU

**THIS REPORT IS DUE IN THE AAG OFFICE BY 31 MAY 1992.** Mail report to: Elizabeth Beetschen, AAG Office, 1710 16th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009-3198.

GUIDELINES FOR THE FORMATION AND FUNCTIONING OF SPECIALTY GROUPS

(10 December 1991)

1. The Association of American Geographers will recognize Groups of its members who share a common substantive interest in a systematic/topical specialty or in a major region.
2. The objectives of a Group might include, but are not restricted to, the organization of sessions and/or workshops for national and/or regional meetings; organization of other seminars, symposia, and conferences; development of proposals for funding; publication of a regular newsletter; and other publications.
3. The first step toward the formation of a Specialty Group will be a petition, signed by at least fifty members of the Association in good standing, requesting that a prospective Group be listed on the annual membership renewal form.
4. A prospective Specialty Group cannot be listed on the membership renewal form unless a valid petition is received by the Executive Director on or before 15 June.
5. All active and prospective Specialty Groups will be listed on the membership renewal form each year. Each AAG member may join as many Specialty Groups as he or she wishes by paying the dues each Specialty Group has established.
6. Specialty Groups selected by one hundred or more members will be declared active. Specialty Groups checked by fewer than one hundred members in a given year will be declared inactive unless they satisfy the other criteria established by the AAG Council as noted in guideline 2. Organization of at least one session or workshop at the annual meeting and publication of the news of the Specialty Group.
7. When a Specialty Group is declared inactive the AAG Secretary will notify the Specialty Group's chair of the Council's action.
8. The AAG Office will collect specialty group dues of at least \$1.00 as part of the annual AAG membership renewal process. Each Specialty Group may set its dues higher than the \$1.00 minimum, if it wishes.
9. The AAG Office will send each Specialty Group chair a list of the group's members as of 31 January each year. The dues collected to 31 January will be disbursed to the Specialty Group's chair at the same time. Supplemental updates and payments for members who join the Association or renew their memberships after 31 January will be made as of 31 March, 30 June, and 31 October. The names and dues for members who select Specialty Groups in November and December will be appended to the following year's 31 January report.
10. A list of all Specialty Groups will be included with annual renewal forms and membership applications.
11. Each newly recognized Specialty Group will hold an organizational meeting during the annual meeting of the Association. The organizational meeting will be chaired by a member of the Program Committee until the Specialty Group has elected its own officers.

12. Each Specialty Group will elect a Board consisting of a Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, and three Directors. All officers will serve two-year terms, and the Chair may not serve two consecutive terms. All officers must be regular AAG members.
13. Annual meeting Program Committees will schedule a business meeting for each Specialty Group during the Association's annual meeting.
14. Each Specialty Group is expected to organize at least one session or workshop at each annual meeting of the Association, subject to scheduling by the meeting Program Committee, which retains final responsibility for the program of the meeting.
15. Annual meeting Program Committees will group papers submitted directly to it into sessions, along with any other non-Specialty Group sessions. At its discretion, a program committee may request the papers submitted to it be included in Specialty Group sessions.
16. Each Specialty Group will report annually to the AAG Office on its activities and finances on or before 31 May. Reports should describe the Specialty Group's goals for the coming year. Specialty Group reports will be reviewed by the AAG's National Councillors, who will transmit to the AAG Council any recommendations for SG requests they wish to make on the basis of the Specialty Group reports.

#### Standing Rules Governing Specialty Groups (SGs)

1. Funds should never be commingled with personal funds of an officer; separate accounts must be established and name of account should include name of group (e.g., Joe Doe, Specialty Group on Geography). Money orders or bank checks should be used for disbursements from accounts without checking privileges.
  2. The annual report of Specialty Group should include name, ID number and bank where group's account is held. Groups whose fund-management system does not conform to recommendation, will be notified and required to come into compliance to receive their dues.
  3. Notify the AAG Office immediately if gross income exceeds \$25,000 per year.
  4. A Specialty Group may use its mailing list for purposes consonant with the goals of the Association and the Specialty Group. Specialty Groups may not rent or sell their membership lists or make or permit any use that would infringe the privacy of its members.
  5. Non-geographers and foreign geographers residing outside the United States may join Specialty Groups without joining the AAG. Annual dues to be collected by the Specialty Group Treasurer. Geographers resident in the United States must be AAG members to join Specialty Groups.
  6. A Specialty Group is entitled to one-third of indirect costs the AAG receives from grants originating from that Specialty Group.
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7. Specialty Groups may organize workshops at annual meetings. Specialty Groups will receive 80 percent of net revenues and the Association will retain 20 percent plus a 3 percent handling fee. Specialty Groups will be responsible for the content of workshops they sponsor. All workshop participants must register for the annual meeting at which the workshops are held. AAG may cancel any workshop for which registration is insufficient to meet expenses.
8. Each Specialty Group may invite up to three non-United States and Canadian non-geographers to participate in each annual meeting as its guests upon payment of a \$15.00 registration fee per guest. The AAG Office must be given the names and affiliations of Specialty Group guests no later than the end of the advanced registration period.
9. Specialty Groups awards must be approved by the AAG Council. Specialty Group awards may be conferred at the Association's annual awards ceremony or at Specialty Group business meetings at the discretion of each group.
10. Specialty Groups may not use the AAG's seal or logo without explicit Council approval.
11. Annual meeting field trips organized by Specialty Groups will be managed in a manner identical to other AAG field trips. Any net income generated will revert to the Association.
12. For an experimental period, which began with the 1990 annual meeting and which will be continued through 1995, a maximum of \$2,000 of AAG funds will be available on a competitive basis to underwrite the expenses of one or more non-geographers invited to appear in plenary-like sessions sponsored by three or more Specialty Groups. Each annual meeting program committee will determine how funds are allocated among the proposals received.
13. Annually each Specialty Group is entitled to one free set of mailing labels, or disk, of its members. Request from the AAG membership coordinator.