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Invitation to a presentation

Exploring Ancient Trade Routes in the Lands of China's Ethnic Minorities



Jeff Fuchs, Author and Himalayan Explorer

Friday, February 28, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Library and Archives Canada, Room 156, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa

Conversation and refreshments following the presentation

EVERYONE IS WELCOME*

A look at China's fascinating 'frontier' regions and how they came to be some of the most dynamic, and unheralded cultural murals on the planet. From the Tea Horse Road that spanned the Himalayas to the great tea forests of southern Yunnan, it is in the rural frontiers--sometimes known as the 'wilds'--that a rich weave of traditions, language, and DNA run riot. The timeless vitality of oral narratives have maintained these lands' tales right into the present. This presentation will provide deeper insights into an often overlooked part of the Middle Kingdom and its tales, peoples and dynamism.

Jeff is an award-winning author and Himalayan explorer who spent the past decade in Asia where his work and research centred on Himalayan trade routes, oral histories and an obsessive interest in tea.

He has consulted with National Geographic and works as a mountain guide. He gained prominence in the realm of exploration as the first westerner to trek the daunting Tea Horse Road, one of the

world's greatest trade routes. His book *The Ancient Tea Horse Road* documents this 8-month ground breaking expedition covering 6,000 kilometres through the Himalayas. His powerful photo essays and feature articles have appeared on three continents in *National Geographic Traveler*, *The Huffington Post*, *UNESCO*, *World Geographic*, *The Spanish Expedition Society*, *Outpost*, *The Toronto Star* and *The South China Morning Post* amongst others.

Most recently, he was invited to be 'scholar-in-residence' at the prestigious policy making institute, the East-West Centre, in Hawaii as part of their Asia Pacific Leadership Program. Fuchs has urged a more careful examination of both the Himalayas and China using oral narratives and the epic trade routes that he believes can assist the west in seeing a more 'complete' and diverse human and cultural landscape.

Jeff is a member of the Explorers Club and calls the Shangri La County in Yunnan Province his home.

**No pre-registration. Entry is free for CCFS members and \$5 for non-CCFS members. Memberships are available at the door. Annual membership is \$20 for individuals, \$30 for a family, \$12 for students and \$17 for a student family. Membership forms are available at www.fccfa.ca/Ottawa. For further information about the Society or this event, please consult our web site or www.facebook.com/ccfs.ottawa, send an email to ccfs.ottawa@gmail.com or phone 613-789-3318.*