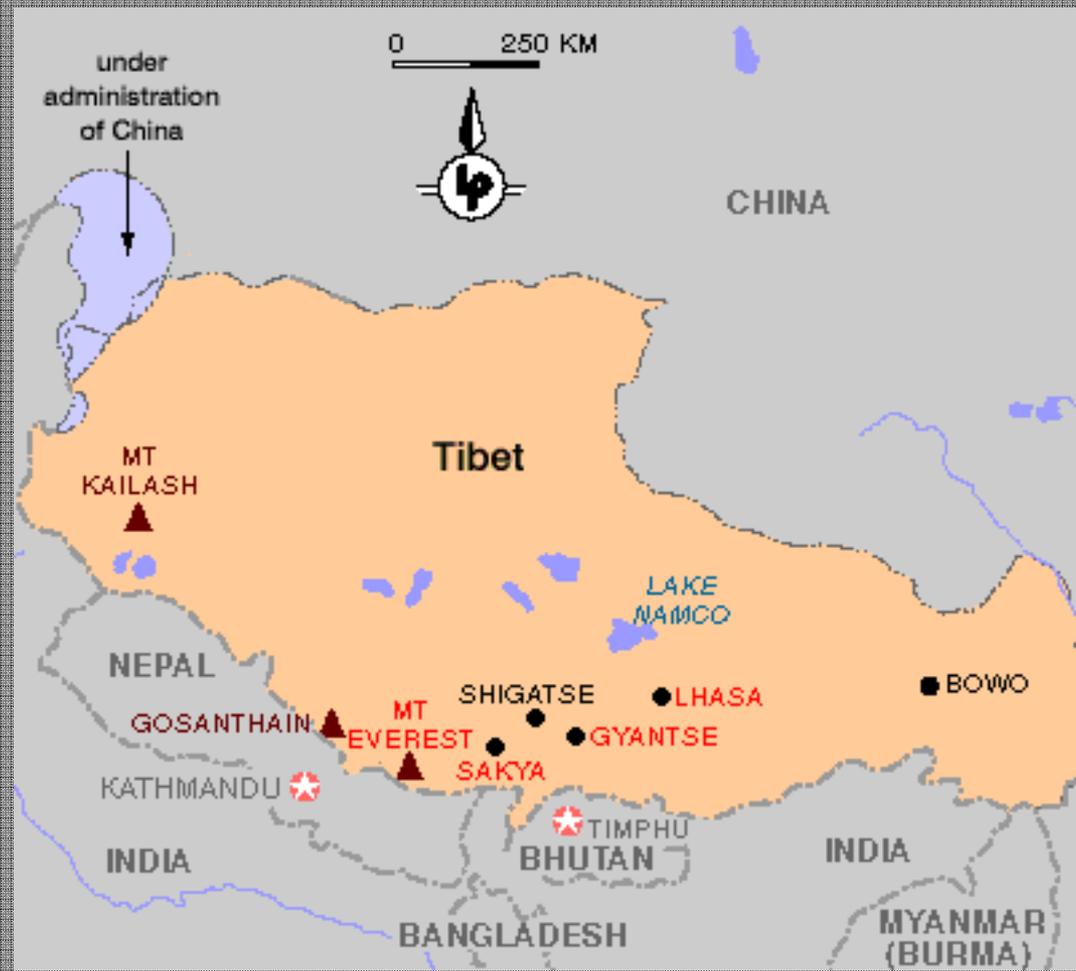


Photography in the Mountains of Nepal & Tibet, 2005

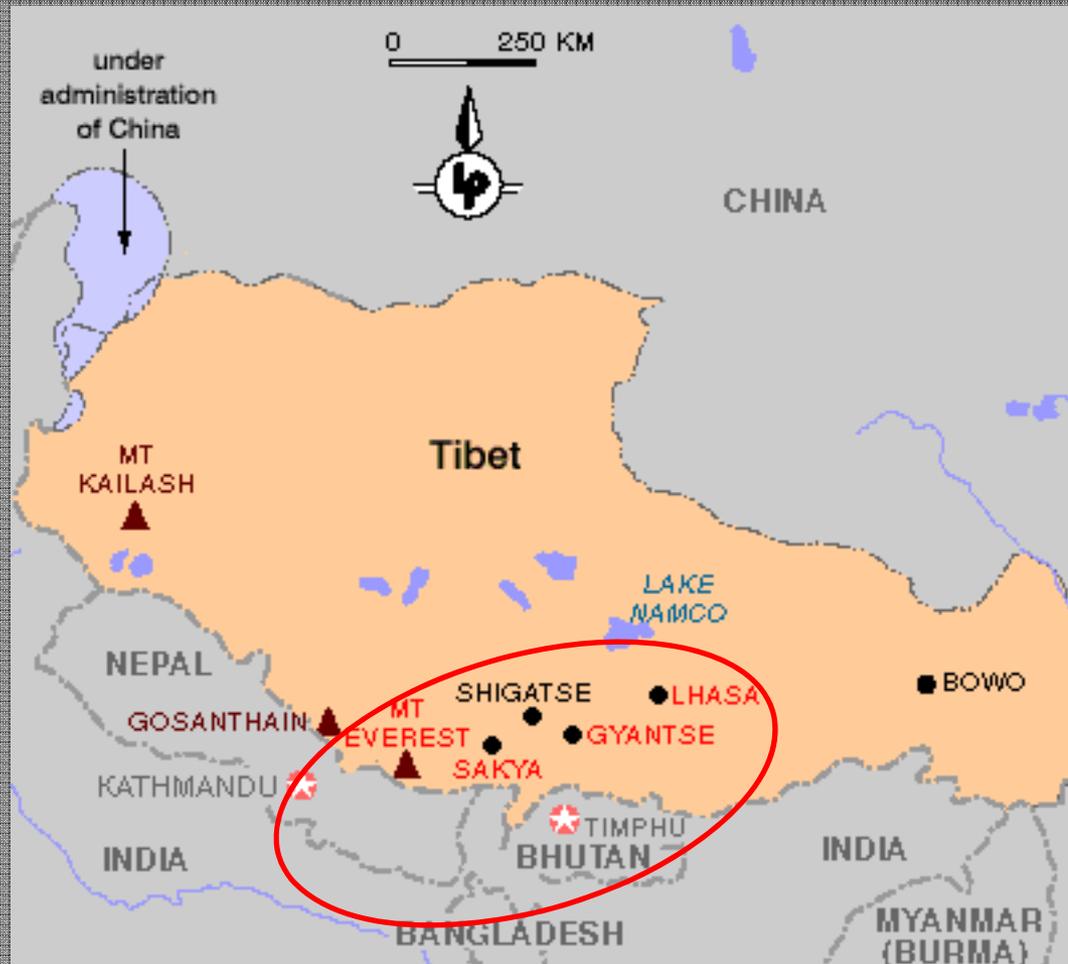


**Ron Anderson, Minnetonka Camera Club
Presentation, March 20, 2008**

Nepal and Tibet



Nepal and Tibet



The tour started at Kathmandu (Nepal capitol), which is about 5,000 feet.



First challenge, the weather. At Kathmandu, Nepal we boarded Buddha Air to photograph Mt. Everest and other Himalayan mountains. But due to clouds no mountains, no pictures.



**Second challenge, rainy cloudy light.
Cremation ceremony on river in Kathmandu
Cremation must begin minutes after death**

Photo taken at
ISO 1000
1/60 at F/10
200mm



**Another rainy day. These monks took me to their monastery.
Walking people are praying as they walking around the Stupa (next photo)**

Photo taken
At 800 ISO
1/200th at F7.2



Great Boudhnath Stupa, principal Buddhist shrine in Kathmandu



Great Stupa up close. Note hundreds of people in lines. They are bucket brigades to move cement to people repairing structure. Such community contributions to the common good were common.

Photo taken
at 200 ISO
1/500th at F/11



Look what a closer shot will do to your image colors and shapes



An even closer shot will change the whole story



View from the Great Stupa

Photo taken
At 200 ISO
1/400 at f/11



Bucket brigades up close. Shooting from above got more action within a single shot



**Typical side street in Kathmandu after a rain
Obviously city infrastructure is poor**

Photo taken
at 200 ISO
1/160th at F/7.1

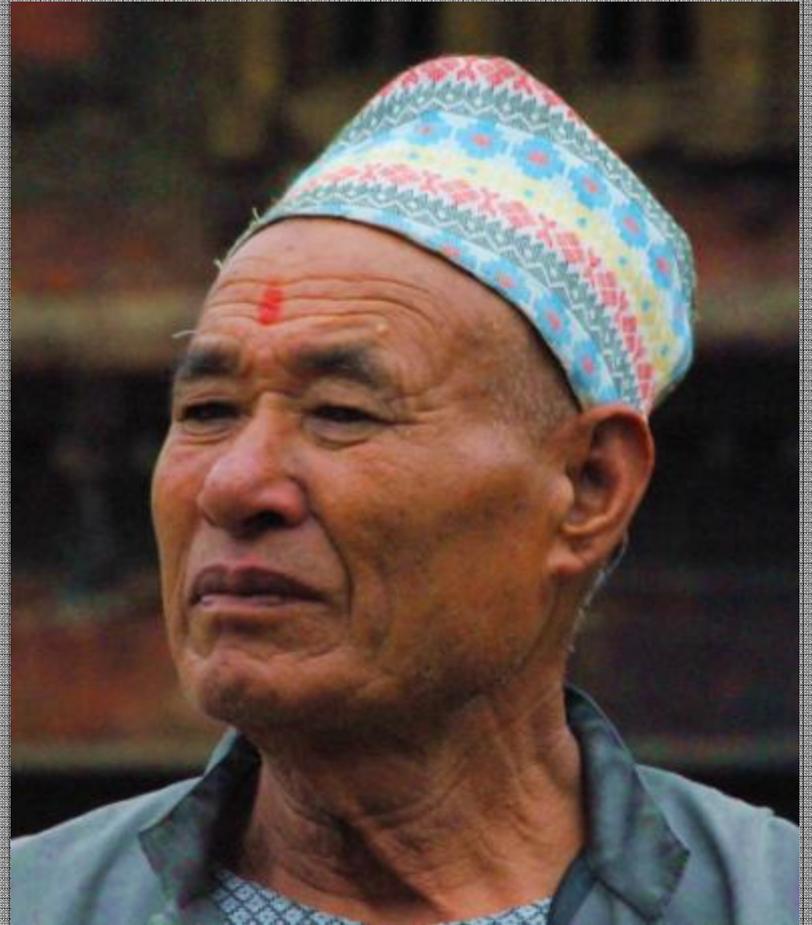


**Lighting Yak Butter Candles.
Both pictures taken without flash
in dark Monastery .
I tried a lot of compositions until
getting the close up with hand.**





**Sadhus, Hindu Ascetic Holy Men
These sadhus are liberal, and
perhaps not too holy, because
they will smile for a buck.
Photos taken in Kathmandu on a
dark evening with ISO 1000**



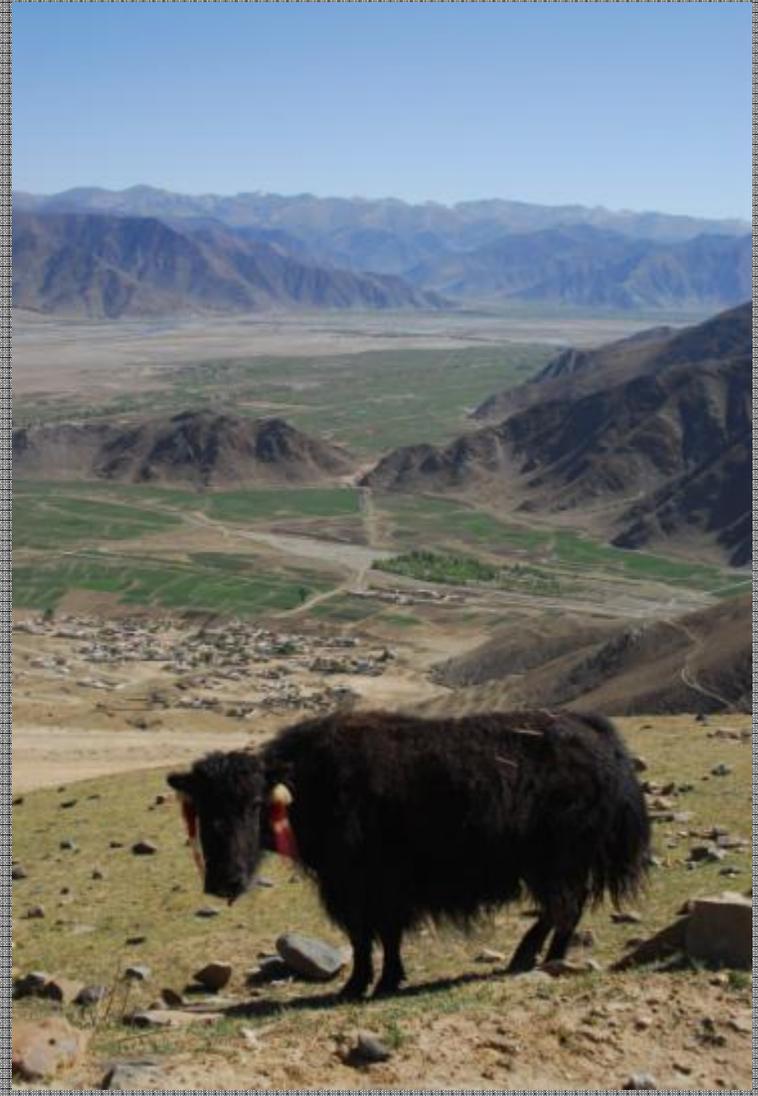
Intent Faces on the Street in Kathmandu, Nepal



**Next stop Lhasa, Tibet, home of the Portola at 12,000 feet.
Guess what happened to our bodies and our computers.**



Almost nothing but barley will grow in Tibet, but most Tibetans are farmers. They have planted 100s of thousands of willow trees in the valleys for erosion control and firewood. Unlike the Rockies, the mountains have no trees. Tibetans have dark reddish skin, burned by the cruel sun at 12,000 plus feet altitude. Cars are rare. Tiny tractors are common.



**Photos taken at 14,500 feet at the Ganden Monastery, 2,000 feet about village.
A 2-mile path circles the mountain top. I took the pilgrimage barely survived.**

Both photos at
ISO 100
F/5.6



**I thought this was my best shot from the mountain top,
but it doesn't get ahs. What is wrong with it?**

ISO 200
1/50th at f/9



Solar heating in the mountains was commonplace.



Outside the Ganden Monastery (at 14,500 feet) building for dining & meditation. This is surprisingly flimsy footwear for night time temps below freezing in early summer



Everything inside monasteries and shrines was always very dark; flash was a must.



Representations of spirits, both good and evil, were everywhere inside religious rooms. Most were gold plated with many jewels. Glare is nearly impossible to avoid.



Strobe flash, ISO400, 1/60th at F/4

Monk meditating with aid of Yak butter candles



This is how they propagate so many more gold covered statues.



ISO400, 1/160 at F/13



Photographing the Potala – how much difference an angle perspective



The Portola from the Jokhang Monastery and Square in Lhasa

Photo at
ISO-200
1/250 at F11



ISA200, 1/160 at F/9

Typical father and child strolling in Jokhang Square in Lhasa, Tibet



**At gray dawn, Tibetans stoking fires with willow branches
in front of Jokhang Monastery in Lhasa**

ISO1600, 1/1000 at F3.5



Meditating with prayer wheel at dawn in Jokhang, Lhasa
This photo was selected for advertisements of
the Colorado Mountain Center Tours.

ISO 1600, 1/16-th at F/6,3, 300mm



Monks in debate ritual at Sera Monastery in Lhasa, Tibet

ISO400, 1/160th
at F/6.3 Flash



**Man circulating
Jokhang Monastery
with prayer wheel
In Lhasa**



Boy monks playing gyalings at Mindroling Monastery in Tibet



100 meters away, other boy monks playing long bass horns at Mindroling Monastery in Tibet



**Seventy-year old nun at Sang-ngag
Zimche Nunnery in Tsedang, Tibet**



Prostration Walk for 300 miles to Lhasa It consists of a rhythm of 3 steps, 3 hand claps, falling to the ground , getting up, and repeating it over & over.

ISO 400
1/1000 at F/5.6