

ERIK DE MAAKER

Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology
Leiden University

CURRICULUM VITAE

Current Status	Assistant Professor Department of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology Leiden University
Highest Qualification	1999 – 2006 PhD in Anthropology , <i>Negotiating Life: Garo Death Rituals and the Transformation of Society</i> , Leiden University
Employment History (selected)	2006 – the present Assistant Professor Department of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology Leiden University
Personal Particulars	Nationality: Dutch Gender: male
Publications (peer reviewed, selected) (*: for the 5 most relevant publications)	<p>Books</p> <p>* <i>Reworking Culture: Relatedness, Rites, and Resources in Garo Hills, North-East India</i>. Oxford & New Delhi: Oxford University Press, fc 2021.</p> <p><i>Environmental Humanities in the New Himalayas: Symbiotic Indigeneity, Commoning, Sustainability</i> (edited volume, with Dan Smyer Yü). Routledge series Environmental Humanities. Abingdon: Routledge, fc 2021.</p> <p><i>Proceedings of the LDE Heritage Conference</i> (with Uta Pottgiesser, Sandra Fatoric, Carola Hein and Ana Pereira Roders). Delft: TU Delft Open, 2020.</p> <p><i>Unequal Land Relations in North East India: Custom, Gender and the Market</i> (edited volume, with Meenal Tula). Guwahati: North Eastern Social Research Centre, 2020 (open access).</p> <p>* <i>Media, Indigeneity and Nation in South Asia</i> (edited volume, with Markus Schleiter). Routledge series 'Media, Culture and Social Change in Asia'. Abingdon: Routledge, 2019.</p> <p>2019 <i>Nokdangko Man rikani: Gamrangko Sualani, Ma.gipa Ong.rikani aro Bia Ka.anirang</i>. Tura: Tura Book Room.</p> <p>Journal Articles</p> <p>* 'Who Owns the Hills? Ownership, Inequality, and Communal Sharing in the Borderlands of India', contribution to a special issue on 'Agrarian Change in Zomia', guest-edited by Erik de Maaker and Deborah E. Tooker. <i>Asian Ethnology</i> 79(2):357-375 (open access).</p> <p>'Borderland Narratives' (with Monica Janowski). Introduction to a special issue on <i>Stories across Borders: Myths of Origin and their Contestation in the Borderlands of Southeast Asia</i>. <i>Journal South East Asian Studies</i> 9(2):151-160, 2020 (open access).</p> <p><i>Asian Borderlands: Introducing their Permeability, Strategic Use and Meanings</i> (co-authored with Willem van Schendel). Introduction to a special issue on Asian Borderlands. <i>Journal of Borderland Studies</i> 29(1):3-10, 2014.</p>

* *Performing the Garo Nation? Garo Wangala Dancing between Faith and Folklore*. *Asian Ethnology* 72(2): 221-239, 2013 (open access).

Erik de Maaker and Vibha Joshi. "The Northeast and Beyond: Region and Culture" (introduction to the special issue). *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, 30 (3), 382-390, 2007.

'From the Songsarek faith to Christianity: Religious Change and Cultural Continuity in West Garo Hills', *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* (Special issue), 30 (3), 517-530, 2007.

Erik de Maaker. 'Integrating Ethnographic Research and Filmmaking: Video Elicitation for a Performance Oriented Analysis of the Teyyam Ritual,' *Visual Anthropology* 13(2): 185-197, 2000.

Book Chapters

'Aloof but not Abandoned: Relationality and the Exploitation of the Environment in the Garo Hills of India'. In: Dan Smyer Yü & Erik de Maaker (eds.): *Environmental Humanities in the New Himalayas: Symbiotic Indigeneity, Commoning, Sustainability* Routledge series Environmental Humanities. Abingdon: Routledge, fc 2021.

'Exploring Heritage as Culture: Disciplines, Theories, Method' (with Ilaria Rosetti and Silvia Naldini), in: Uta Pottgiesser, Sandra Fatoric, Carola Hein, Erik de Maaker and Ana Pereira Roders, *Proceedings of the LDE Heritage Conference*. Delft: TU Delft Open, 533-535 (open access).

'From Marginal Zone to Borderland? Ethnographies, Histories and Politics in North East India', in Sarkar, Surajit and Nerupama Y. Modwell (eds.), *Oral Traditions, Continuities and Transformations in Northeast India and Beyond*. New Delhi: Routledge, 2020.

'Rites of Inheritance: Assessing Gifts, Mothers, and Marriages', in: Marak, Q & S. Chaudhury (eds.), *Cultural Heritage of Meghalaya*. Abingdon: Routledge, 329-350, 2020.

'Introduction: Screening Indigeneity and Nation', with Markus Schleiter. In: Markus Schleiter & Erik de Maaker (eds.): *Media, Indigeneity and Nation in South Asia*. Routledge series 'Media, Culture and Social Change in Asia'. Abingdon: Routledge, 1-25, 2019 (open access).

'Cultural Records, Stereotypes, and the Conflation of Past and Present in the Creation of Garo Documentary Films', in: Markus Schleiter & Erik de Maaker (eds.): *Media, Indigeneity and Nation in South Asia*. Routledge series 'Media, Culture and Social Change in Asia'. Abingdon: Routledge, 196-212, 2019.

'Marked for Oblivion? Renunciation, Redundancy, and Reformulation of the Garo Community Religion' in: Marine Carrin (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Religions of Indigenous People of South Asia*. Leiden: Brill, 2019.

* 'On the Nature of Indigenous Land: Ownership, Access and Farming in upland Northeast India'. In: Uddin, Nasir, Eva Gerharz & Pradeep Chakkarath, *Indigeneity on the Move: Varying Manifestations of a Contested Concept*. New York: Berghahn, 29-48, 2018.

'Ambiguous Mortal Remains, Substitute Bodies, and other Materializations of the

	<p>Dead among the Garo of Northeast India’, in Peter Berger and Justin Kroeze (eds.) <i>Ultimate Ambiguities: Investigating Death and Liminality</i>. New York: Berghahn Books, 15-35, 2015.</p> <p>‘Researching Garo Death Rites’ in: Chaudhuri, Sarit K. & Sucheta Sen Chaudhuri (eds.), <i>Fieldwork in South Asia: Memories, Moments, And Experiences</i>. New Delhi: Sage, 2014 (167-185).</p> <p>* ‘Have the Mitdes Gone Silent? Conversion, Rhetoric, and the Continuing Importance of the Lower Deities in Northeast India’, in Richard Fox Young and Jonathan Seitz (eds.) <i>Asia in the Making of Christianity: Conversion, Agency, Indigeneity 1600s to the Present</i>. Leiden: Brill, 135-159, 2013.</p> <p>‘Assessing Gifts, Mothers and Marriages’ in: Neubert, Frank and Ute Husken (eds.), <i>Negotiating Rites</i>. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.</p> <p>‘From Ritual Ground to Stage’, (co-authored with Erik de Maaker, Karen Pollit, Mariane Riphagen and Fletcher DuBois), in: Grimes, Ronald L., Ute Hüsken, Udo Simon and Eric Venbrux (Eds.), <i>Ritual, Media, and Conflict</i>. Oxford University Press, New York, 2011.</p> <p>Erik de Maaker. ‘Recording, Constructing and Reviewing Teyyam, The Annual Visit of the God Vishnumurti’, in Peter Crawford and Metsje Postma (eds.), <i>Reflecting Visual Ethnography: Using the Camera in Anthropological Research</i>. Leiden/Aarhus: CNWS Publishers/ Intervention Press, 2006.</p> <p>Ethnographic Films Erik de Maaker. <i>Teyyam: The Annual Visit of the God Vishnumurti</i>, Boston: Documentary Educational Resources, 1998 (<i>Award for Excellence</i>, Society for Visual Anthropology (American Anthropological Association)).</p>
<p>Invited Talks (selected)</p>	<p>Keynote lecture <i>Marked for Oblivion? Renunciation, Redundancy, and Reformulation of the Garo Community Religion</i>, international conference ‘Changes and Continuities in the Religious Landscape of Northeast India’, Don Bosco Institute, Guwahati, India (21 January 2017).</p> <p>Keynote lecture <i>From Marginal Zone To Borderland? Ethnographies, Histories And Politics In North East India</i>, international conference ‘ Oral Traditions: Continuity and Transformations - North East India and South East Asia’ (Shillong, Meghalaya, India. Intangible Cultural Heritage Division, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and The Centre for Community Knowledge, Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) (1-4 February, 2016).</p>
<p>Current Research Projects (selected)</p>	<p><i>Interfacing Indigenous Knowledge, Modern Science and Policymaking: Water and Climate Change in the Hindu Kush Himalayan Region</i>. Focus grant of the Himalayan Universities Consortium, awarded to Yunnan Minzu University (Leiden University is a co-leader of the programme, other partners are Sikkim University, as well as Royal Timphu College). https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2018/09/climate-change-and-sustainable-livelihoods-in-the-hindu-kush-himalayas</p> <p>2015-present: <i>Postcolonial Displacements: Migration, Narratives and Place-Making in South Asia</i> (funded by Leiden University AMT). This project explores the multiple ways in which migration in South Asia contributes to the imagining, questioning, subverting and reframing of territories, nations and communities. Foregrounding the contested fringes of the politically divided South Asian subcontinent across historical and contemporary socio-political contexts, the project asks: How do people in South</p>

	<p>Asia engage, resist and support the arbitrary borders that divide, define and delineate the states of the subcontinent? And how are cultural imaginations, narratives, and claim-makings shaped by histories, memories and experiences of mobility and migration?</p> <p>2016-present: <i>Markets, Ethics and Agency: Changing Land Utilization and Social Transformation in the Uplands of Northeast India</i> (funded by NWO & ICSSR). This research project explores the strategies employed by upland farmers of Northeast India who are deepening their engagement with markets and the state. Given the substantial commitments of the Indian state towards the Northeast and its growing importance for commercial activities such as mining, the region is rapidly developing in terms of infrastructure and connectivity. Conducting in-depth multidisciplinary and empirical research into the so far neglected agency of upland farmers and their complex and changing relationship with markets and the state, we expect to gain important new insights into how upland indigenous communities modernize.</p>
PhD tutoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PhD researcher M.I. (Idrees) Kanth MA. Project title: <i>National consciousness and Public discourse in Twentieth century Kashmir</i>. Co-supervision together with Prof. Nira Wickramasinghe (LIAS, Leiden University). PhD successfully defended May 7th, 2019. - PhD researcher Tim van de Meerendonk MA. Project is included in the ERC funded project <i>Moralising Misfortune: A comparative anthropology of commercial insurance</i>. Co-supervision together with Dr. Erik Bähre (CA/DS, Leiden University). - PhD researcher Andea Malaya M. Ragragio. Project title: <i>Ethnography of the Pantaron Manobo Pangotoeb (An ethnographic study of the traditional tattooing of the Pantaron Manobo of Southern Mindanao, Philippines)</i>. Co-supervision together with Prof. Pieter ter Keurs (CA/DS, Leiden University). - PhD researcher Wenlan Wang. Project title: <i>Mediation as Core: an anthropological study in Thai village Buddhism ritual materials</i>. Co-supervision together with Prof. Michael Herzfeld.
Academic responsibilities, conference convening and reviewing	<p>Member academic committee of the <i>International Institute for Asian Studies</i> (February 2017-present).</p> <p>Advisor and member selection committee conference <i>Locating Northeast India: Human Mobility, Resource Flows, and Spatial Linkages</i> (6th International Conference on North-East India', scheduled to be held at Tezpur University, January 2018).</p> <p>Convenor of the conference <i>Borderland Futures: Technologies, Zones, Co-existences</i> (7th Conference of the Asian Borderlands Research Network), Chung-Ang University, Seoul, South Korea, June, 2022.</p> <p>Chair and member of curriculum review panels at Leiden University, and at the Amsterdam Free University (2016, 2017)</p> <p>Reviewer for research proposals of (among others): ERC (Brussels), NWO (The Hague), of FWO (Brussels), Oxford University Press (New Delhi), as well as major academic journals.</p>
Lecturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Displacement, Migration and Diaspora: Anthropological Perspectives on South Asia (BSc3/ BSc2 level course, in association with LIAS). - Anthropology of Religion (BSc3 level course). - Qualitative research methods and academic writing (MSc level) - Guidance of >60 MA students on individual research projects since 2006. - Guidance of >90 BA students on Bachelor thesis projects since 2006.
Scholarships,	Qualitative Research in Higher Education Teaching Approaches for sustainability and

Project Grants Prizes (selected)	<p>well-being in Bhutan (Erasmus+ KA2), 2020 € 94.308</p> <p>Leiden Kennisstad (2018-19; 2019-20; 2021-21) € 30.000</p> <p>AMT2 Manuscript finishing grant ‘Reworking Culture’, 2019 € 34.200</p> <p>AMT2 Network grant ‘Exploring Ethno-Nationality’, 2019 € 4.200</p> <p>HUC/ICIMOD Focus grant ‘Landscape & Climate Change’, 2018 US\$ 37.000 € 33.800</p> <p>AMT2 Network grant ‘Centring South Asia’, 2019 € 5.000</p> <p>NWO- ICSSR India-Netherlands Scholarship Exchange, 2017 € 45.000</p> <p>AMT2 Large grant (with Sanjukta Sundarason - LIAS), 2015 € 150.000</p> <p>NWO- ICSSR India-Netherlands Scholarship Exchange, 2013 € 6.450</p> <p>AMT small project grant ‘Marginal Lands: The Commodification of Swidden in the Borderlands of India, Bangladesh and Burma’, 2013 € 2.500</p> <p>Conference/workshop grants, several funders (2006-2012) € 56.082</p> <p>Grants for the Modern South Asia Seminar from AMT, LIAS and IIAS, 2011-2014 € 7.000</p> <p>Research grant, Mondriaan Foundation, Amsterdam, 2007 € 20.000</p> <p>Concise research grant, Data Archiving and Networked Services (NWO/ KNAW), 2006 € 2.820</p> <p>Individual Project Grant, (NWO/WOTRO), 1999 € 200.000</p> <p>Cultural Exchange Scholarship, ICCR/NUFFIC, 1999 € 5.000</p> <p>Award for Excellence, Society for Visual Anthropology (American Anthropological Association, 1998) prize</p> <p>Total € 696.360</p>
Outreach (selected)	<p>- Smit, M. (2020), ‘Translating Heritage Values: an Interview with Erik de Maaker.’ Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Centre for Global Heritage and Development. https://www.globalheritage.nl/news/translating-heritage-values-an-interview-with-erik-de-maaker</p> <p>- Blogpost <i>Making sense in times of uncertainty: ‘models of’ and ‘models for’ the covid-19 pandemic</i> (Leiden CADS blog, March 23, 2020).</p> <p>- Blogpost <i>Anthropologies of and with Asia, at Leiden University</i> (Leiden CA/DS blog, September 24, 2019 – with Annemarie Samuels).</p> <p>- Interviewed on NPO Radio 1 ‘Met het Oog Op Morgen’, 25 November 2018 https://www.nporadio1.nl/nos-met-het-oog-op-morgen/onderwerpen/481309-antropoloog-erik-de-maaker-over-sentinel-island</p> <p>- Interviewed for news site NU.nl, ‘Amerikaan gedood door inheemse stam: 'Wat hij deed was niet verstandig'. 30 november 2018. https://www.nu.nl/weekend/5603717/amerikaan-gedood-inheemse-stam-wat-hij-deed-was-niet-verstandig.html</p> <p>- Interviewed for science website Scientias, Verstoep en verscholen: het roerige bestaan van geïsoleerde stamen die ongemoeid willen blijven, 20 Januari 2019. https://www.scientias.nl/verstoep-en-verscholen-het-roerige-bestaan-van-geïsoleerde-stammen-die-ongemoeid-willen-blijven</p> <p>- Interviewed on NPO Radio 1 ‘Met het oog op morgen’ (NPO, radio 1) on the increase of witchcraft related violence in South Asia (22-07-2015).</p> <p>- Blogpost <i>All of one place: A Muslim saint, a converted Hindu princess, and a Hindu deity</i> (Leiden CA/DS blog, May 6 2015)</p>