

The Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre (SAC)

and

The Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC)

have the pleasure to invite you to the upcoming conference

“Religious Practitioners in Bhutan”

Conference by Dr. Françoise Pommaret

and discussant Dr. Paritta Chalernpow Koanantakool



The religious categories in Bhutan are often puzzling for the outsiders even if they are Buddhist themselves. The term *lama* used freely to label any male religious person does not help to understand the complexity of this religious culture.

The tradition of Bhutanese Buddhism is similar to Tibetan Buddhism and belongs to Vajrayana which has different set of rules from Theravada.

This lecture presents an overview of the religious categories, which form the support of Buddhism in Bhutan: Monks, nuns, lay-practitioners, and intercessors.

The socio-economic background of these men and women, celibate or married, and their interactions are also discussed.

Dr. Françoise Pommaret is a cultural anthropologist. She is Director of Research at the CNRS (National Centre for Scientific Research, France) and Adjunct Professor at Institute of Language and Culture (ILCS), Royal University of Bhutan.

Dr. Paritta Chalernpow Koanantakool is an anthropologist. She taught in the Faculty of Sociology and Anthropology of Thammasat University. She is also former director of the Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre. She has conducted workshops and taught in Bhutan.

Date	Wednesday September 30 th , 2015	
Time	9AM – 12AM	
Venue	Room 607, 6th Floor, Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre (SAC)	
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*****The participation to this conference is free of charge*****