

In the Forest of the Blind: Making and Unmaking Buddhist Asia With Faxian

Prof. Matthew King
University of California, Riverside

Abstract:

Matthew King will discuss his recently published study of the connected discovery, interpretation, and erasure of Faxian's *Foguo ji* by 18th century Qing literati, 19th century Orientalists in Paris and Siberia, and 20th century Buddhist monk historians in revolutionary Mongolia and the Tibetan refugee diaspora. In this centerless disciplining and undisciplining of “Buddhist Asia,” King pursues anti-field history; a more global history of the humanities which might trouble and diversify our disciplinary practices today. Herein are opportunities for critical, even radical, Buddhist and area studies; ones that might lead, not simply follow, wider projects in the critical Asian humanities.



Wednesday, February 1, 2023

1:15 pm-2:30 pm EST

Huguette and Michel Porté Seminar Room, S250 CGIS-South

Online: register at <https://iaas.fas.harvard.edu/pages/iaas-lecture-series>

Inner Asian and Altaic Studies: <https://iaas.fas.harvard.edu/>