

### Speakers (in alphabetical order)

**Mats Alvesson** is Professor at the Department of Business Administration, Lund University, Sweden.

He has published a large number of books on a variety of topics, including *Reflexive Methodology* (together with Kaj Sköldböck) Sage 2000, *Understanding Organizational Culture*, Sage 2002, *Postmodernism and Social Research*, Open University Press, 2002, *Studying Management Critically* (co-edited with Hugh Willmott) Sage 2003.

Title of presentation: *Leadership in a Culture Context*

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**Verena Blechinger-Talcott** is Professor of Japanese politics and political economy at the Institute of East Asian Studies, Berlin Free University, Germany.

Her most recent publication is a co-edited volume in German on Politics in Japan. Her research interests are Japanese politics in comparative perspective, government-business relations and the role of business in society as well as Japanese international relations.

Title of presentation: *Political Leadership and Generational Change in Japan*

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**Ofer Feldman** is Professor of Political Process & Psychology at Faculty of Policy Studies, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan.

He has published extensively in the fields of political behavior/psychology, communication studies, and Japanese politics the

most recent are: *The Japanese Political Personality*, St. Martin's Press, 2000, *Talking Politics in Japan Today* Sussex Academic Press 2005 and

*Political Psychology*, 2006 (in Japanese). His current research project focuses on the symbolic interaction between politicians (or candidates for political office) and their audiences.

Title of presentation: *National Character, Prime Ministers, and Shadow Shoguns: Symbolic Leadership in Japan*

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**Katrin Goldstein-Kyaga** is Associate Professor at the Department of Education, Stockholm University, Sweden.

She has researched extensively on ethnicity, learning, identity, non-violence and globalization concerning Tibet. Her recent publications are: *Tibet and the Swedish Silence. An Examination of Swedish Foreign Policy Documents and the Press*, see: <http://www.rel.su.se/> *Tibet och den svenska tystnaden. Tibets politiska status och Sverige ståndpunkt*. Stockholm: Amaryllis Media 2007. *Tibetaner från traditionell fredskultur till modern ickevåldsrörelse, Gränsöverskridande identiteter i globaliseringens tid – ungdomar, migration och kampen för fred*. (Eds Borgström, M., Goldstein-Kyaga, K.) *Södertörn Academic Studies 31*. Stockholm: Södertörns högskola 2006, pp.197-213.

Title of presentation: *The Dalai Lama as a Buddhist Monk and a Tibetan National Symbol*



### Speakers (in alphabetical order)

**Hema Goonatilake** received her PhD in Buddhist Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London and is Professor and works at the Social Sciences of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science.

She has been a gender expert at the United Nations, New York and in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and a Senior Advisor to the Government of Cambodia in university education and Buddhist affairs. She pioneered the campaign for the re-establishment of the Bhikkhuni order in Sri Lanka and she co-founded the Centre for Women's Research, Sri Lanka. She is the President of the Buddhist Resource Centre, Sri Lanka and the Hony. Secretary of Red Lotus, an international Buddhist humanitarian agency, paralleling Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Title of presentation: *Compassion and Courage: Buddhist Leadership in the Wake of Tsunami*

**Mikael Gravers** is Associate Professor at the Department of Anthropology & Ethnography, Aarhus University, Denmark.

He has researched extensively on the Karen, religion, and politics in Thailand and Burma since 1970. He is the author of *Nationalism as Political Paranoia in Burma*, Curzon, 1999, and the editor of *Exploring Ethnic Diversity in Burma*, NIAS Press 2007.

Title of presentation: *In Quest for Moral Leaders – Buddhist Notions of Charismatic Leadership.*

**Hiroko Kawanami**, is Associate Professor Department of Religious Studies, Lancaster University, U.K. BA, MA (Sophia University, Tokyo). MSc, PhD (LSE, University of London).

She is trained as an anthropologist and has worked closely with the monastic community in Burma/Myanmar for the last twenty years. In 1986, she was initiated and lived as a Buddhist nun for 16 months in a monastic community in Sagaing, Upper Burma. She has published books and articles on gender and Buddhism.

Title of presentation: *Charisma and Power in Burmese Buddhism: Three Case Studies of Buddhist monks*

**Phrakhru Suwatthithammarat**, The Abbot of the Buddhist temple, Wat Samakkhitham, District Kuraburi, Phang-nga.

He is the "Director Lord Abbot" of Buddhist monasteries in Kuraburi district in Phang-Nga province, Thailand. He has two Master degrees; one in Public Administration and one in Social Sciences. He is a lecturer in Buddhist subjects and he leads several development and social projects. His temple became an important shelter for survivors after the tsunami catastrophe in 2004.

Title of presentation: *A Buddhist Monk's Experiences of Working with the Tsunami Catastrophe in Southern Thailand*

