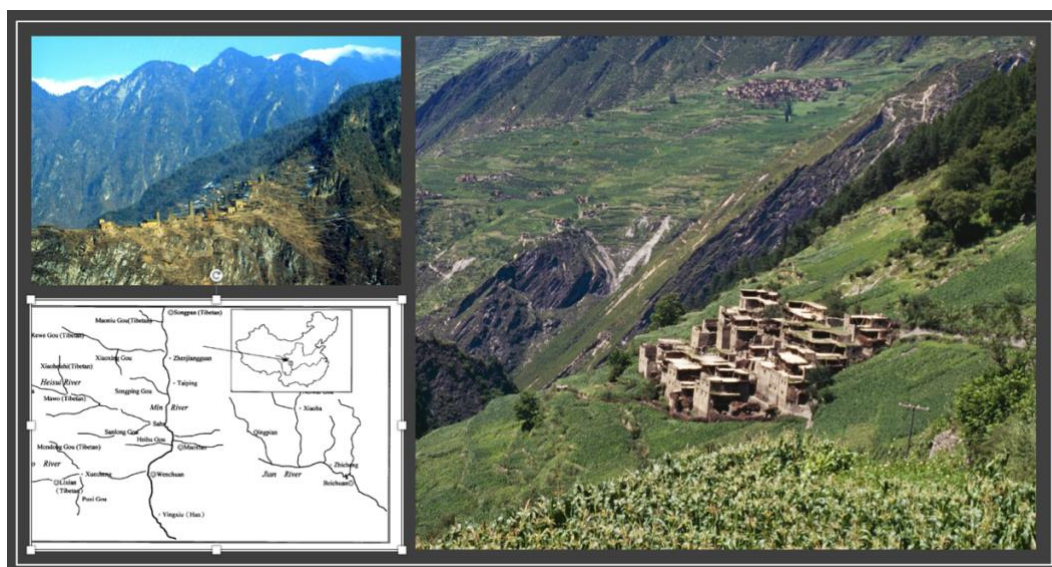


Community, History and Civilization: New Reflections from the Rma

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22 October, 2025, h. 13:30-15:30

Palazzo Stocchi (Piazza Morlacchi 30)

Based on the speaker's long-term fieldwork among various ethnic groups on the eastern edge of the Tibetan Plateau, this lecture will introduce the Rma community—what we term a 'primal community'—of mountain village populations in the early 20th century, along with the historical memories that sustain this identity. Subsequently, by comparing this with the communal identities and historical memories of neighboring Tibetan and Yi ethnic groups, the lecture will illustrate the corresponding evolution between social complexity and historical memory. Finally, the speaker will propose a hypothesis on the transition of human societies away from the 'primal community' into civilization, and elucidate the existence and fate of such primal communities within civilized societies.

* **Fig.:** Map of the Qiang region; Heihu valley, Mao county; Puxi valley, Li county (photos by the author).

Online link for registered participants is available [here](#).