

## This Month in Mongolian Studies – January 2011

This is a monthly listing of selected academic activities and resources related to Mongolia. This list is based on information the ACMS has received and is presented as a service to its members. If you would like to submit information to be included in next month's issue please contact the ACMS at [info@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:info@mongoliacenter.org)

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### ACMS Sponsored Programs and Events

#### ACMS Fall Newsletter

Members may visit following link for the ACMS Fall 2010 newsletter: <http://www.mongoliacenter.org/docs/newsletters/nlfall2010.pdf>

#### ACMS Speaker Series – Mongolia

Date: 5:30 PM, Thursday-January 27th, 2011, MUST, Central Library, Room 405  
Speaker: Krisztina Teleki, PhD, Faculty Member, ELTE University, Inner Asian Studies Department (Mongolian Studies)

Title: "On the Route of A. M. Pozdneev"

Dr Teleki will present the results of a four-month survey aimed at re-discovering the monasteries described by the Russian scholar, A. M. Pozdneev. During his second trip (1892-1893) Pozdneev passed about 50 monasteries in the present area of Mongolia. Almost all of them were destroyed in the 1930s, yet only handful of them were revived after the democratic changes. By re-visiting these rural sites, local remnants were documented, and remaining relevant texts were studied in museums, temples, and archives in order to determine what has remained from these religious centers and how the present society is handling their heritage.

ACMS lectures are free and open to the public. Directly following the lecture the ACMS hosts "Thursday Nights/Naitz at the ACMS." This is a time and a place where lecture attendees and other scholars in Ulaanbaatar gather to continue discussing the presentation and to meet others conducting research in Mongolia

#### New Online Mongolian Course Spring 2011

The American Center for Mongolian Studies is pleased to announce the second semester of an online Beginning Mongolian language course being offered at University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) from January 10 to May 7, 2011. The course is co-organized by UMA and ACMS. The course is open to anyone (you do not need to be a student at UMA to participate), and it is the second semester in a two semester offering. Register through University of Maine at Augusta <http://www.uma.edu/enrollmentservices.html>, Contact: 1-800-868-7000

#### New Acquisitions at the ACMS Library

Each month the ACMS publishes a list of materials acquired and added to the collection. The complete list for December 2010 can be viewed on the ACMS library website at [http://www.mongoliacenter.org/library/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=664&Itemid=54](http://www.mongoliacenter.org/library/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=664&Itemid=54)

Here are some highlights:

"Mongolyn nuts tovchoon dakhi es zanshlyn sudalгаа (Studies of Customs within Mongolian Secret History Text)," A. Punsag, S. Bira, (2010), Tuukhiin Khureelen.

"Manzh Chin ulsaas Mongolchuudiig zahirsan bodlogo: Oiraduudyn zhisheen deer (Strategic Governance of Manzh Qing over Mongolia: Studies on Oirats)," Oyunjargal, (2009), Arvin Sudar

"Ooldiin noyodiin ug ekh tuuh: Ertnees edugee hurtelkh khaad noyodiin tuuj tседиг sudaryn devter (History of Uuld Noblemen: Tales and Narratives of Khaans and Noblemen from the Primeval till Present Period)," T. Tserendorj, S. Sukhbaatar, N. Ochir (2008), Tod Nomiin Gerel Tov

"Скрытый Тибет: История независимости и оккупации (Closed Tibet: History of Independence and Occupation)," С.Л. Кузьмин, (2010), Издание Терентьева

"Yaponii Undesnii Uzel (On Japanese Nationalism)," J. Batkhuyag, N. Battserег, D. Delgertsogt, eds., Mongolian National Academy of Sciences, 2010

"Traditional Mongolian Culture, Part I – Material Culture," A. Birtalan, 2009, CD-ROM, in Hungarian, English, Mongolian. ISBN: 978-963-284-039-0

## Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

MA Program in International Relations and Public Policy- University of Tsukuba, Japan

This program aims to contribute to capacity building in post-Soviet Central Asia by providing research and study opportunities at the University of Tsukuba for recent graduates, graduate students and professionals in the fields of social and humanitarian sciences, international affairs and public policy. English is the language of instruction. Although the primary target of this program are students from the post-Soviet Central Asian countries, a very limited number of candidates from countries neighboring Central Asia (ex: Russia, China, Mongolia, etc) may be considered for admission. Application deadline: January 5, 2011.

Visit: <http://www.chiiki.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/about-our-program/special-programs-in-english/special-program-for-central-asian-countries-in-international-relations-and-public-policy-2-year.html>

Asian Master's Program Scholarship - Waseda University, Japan

The graduate school of the Faculty of Science and Engineering at Waseda University offers scholarships for students who are accepted into the International Graduate Program. Students must be nationals of Asian countries and Mongolian nationals are eligible to apply. The degree program is conducted entirely in English. Application deadline: January 7, 2011.

Visit: [http://www.sci.waseda.ac.jp/visitor/applicants/daigakuin/scholarship\\_fse.html](http://www.sci.waseda.ac.jp/visitor/applicants/daigakuin/scholarship_fse.html)

Asian Doctoral Program Scholarship at Waseda University, Japan

This scholarship is awarded to students who are accepted into the International Graduate Program at the Doctoral level at Waseda University, after an entrance examination (using the AO method). Students from Mongolia are eligible to apply. Deadline: January 7, 2011

Visit: [http://www.sci.waseda.ac.jp/visitor/applicants/daigakuin/scholarship\\_fse.html](http://www.sci.waseda.ac.jp/visitor/applicants/daigakuin/scholarship_fse.html)

Oyu Tolgoi Scholarship for Overseas Study

Oyu Tolgoi LLC has established a scholarship program for supporting the education of Mongolian nationals, with an emphasis on mining related disciplines. Oyu Tolgoi will cooperate with educational institutions from the USA, Australia and Canada to send 10 students in total over the next year to pursue an undergraduate or graduate degree in mining engineering/processing, earth sciences, or a directly related field. Application deadline: January 15, 2011. Visit: <http://www.ot.mn/print/page/58.shtml>

#### MPhil / PhD Scholarship Programs-University of Central Asia and University of Exeter

The University of Central Asia (UCA) is sponsoring Central Asian Faculty Development Program (CAFDP) scholarships at the College of Social Sciences and International Studies and College of Humanities through the UCA- University of Exeter partnership. This partnership provides scholarships for Master (MPhil leading to PhD programs) and PhD students in the following disciplines: Politics, Sociology, Philosophy, History, Archaeology, Law, Arab and Islamic Studies and Theology. Countries of eligibility: Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, western China (Xinjiang region) and Northern areas of Pakistan. Application deadline: January 17, 2011.

Contact: [facultydev@ucentralasia.org](mailto:facultydev@ucentralasia.org); [j.d.heathershaw@ex.ac.uk](mailto:j.d.heathershaw@ex.ac.uk) Visit: <http://net.abimperio.net/en/assistant#comment-1259>

#### AAS China and Inner Asia Council (CIAC) Small Grants

The China and Inner Asia Council (CIAC) of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) is soliciting applications for awards of up to \$2,000. Dissertation-level graduate students and scholars with special interests in China or Inner Asia are invited to submit proposals (which can include translation of books/ articles). Applicants must be current AAS members, but there are no citizenship requirements. Junior and independent scholars, adjunct faculty, and dissertation-level graduate students are especially encouraged to apply.

Application deadline: February 1, 2011. Visit: <http://www.asiawrites.org/2010/12/aas-china-and-inner-asia-council-small.html>

#### CEU Professorial and CEU Visiting Research Fellowship-Central European University

The program is designed to promote original research of practical benefit to a particular country or region, and to increase exchange between Fellows and the Central European University. The program supports two types of Research Fellows: CEU Professorial Research Fellows hold a full professorship and are academics of established (preferably national) standing within their discipline; CEU Visiting Research Fellows are academics who have made a contribution to their discipline through publications, conference presentations, or other academic forums. These Research Fellowship Programs are for citizens of countries in Central and Eastern Europe (except EU member states), the former Soviet Union and Mongolia who hold a Ph. D. or equivalent, and who are affiliated with a teaching or research institution within these countries. Fellows are supported for a period of from one to six months, depending upon the type of research being undertaken. Deadline: February 15, 2011. Visit: <http://web.ceu.hu/sep/spo/fellowships.html>

#### Reach Oxford Scholarships for Developing Countries, 2011

Several Oxford colleges offer Reach Oxford scholarships (formerly Oxford Student Scholarships) to students from developing countries who are unable to study for a degree in their own countries for political or financial reasons, or because suitable educational facilities do not exist. The scholarship is offered only to those students who are currently accepted by Oxford. All subjects of study are eligible except medicine. Citizens of Mongolia are encouraged to apply. Application deadline: February 25, 2011.

Visit: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding/prospectiveugrad/university/reach/>

#### E8-Sustainable Energy Masters Scholarship for Developing Countries

The purpose of the E8 scholarship is to support outstanding students pursuing advanced studies in sustainable energy development and to encourage meaningful contributions to the collective body of knowledge about this subject. The scholarship is for those students who plan to undertake studies at the Masters level in areas

directly related to sustainable energy (wind, solar power) development. Eligibility: Mongolian citizens are eligible to apply. Application deadline: March 11, 2011. Visit: <http://www.e8.org/index.jsp?numPage=195>

## Call for Papers, Conferences and Workshops

Mongolian Economic Forum: February 27-28, 2011, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Following the success of the first Mongolia Economic Forum (MEF) in 2010, the MEF NGO will host the Mongolia Economic Forum 2011 to provide a platform for debate and discussion about important issues having an impact on Mongolia's economic growth. To register, contact the Organizing Committee at the address below by January 10, 2011. Visit: <http://www.meforum.mn/>

International Conference "Coal Mongolia 2011:" February 24-25, 2011, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

This two-day conference will focus on the potential of Mongolian coal mining, the diversity of the quality, size, and accessibility of the deposits and requirements to bring the coal to market. The objectives are to examine the potential to: expand channels of coal sales internationally; open up corridors of coal transport; attract investment for coal exploration and extraction projects; develop the supply network of the coal sector; and publish Mongolia's plans related to coal sector policy. Sponsored by Hunnu Coal and supported by the Ministry of Mineral Resource and Energy. The working languages of the conference are Mongolian, English and Chinese. Location: Chinggis Khaan Hotel. Registration deadline: February 1, 2011.

Visit: [http://www.coalmongolia.mn/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.coalmongolia.mn/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1)

Call for Papers: A new journal of the National University of Mongolia - "Contemporary Political Society"

"Contemporary Political Society" is an official publication of the Center for Contemporary Political Research of the National University of Mongolia. Submissions are invited for its inaugural issue (Vol. 1, No. 1, 2011) to be published at the end of April 2011. Deadline for submission: February 20, 2011.

Contact: [turtogtokh@yahoo.com](mailto:turtogtokh@yahoo.com), [ccpr@num.edu.mn](mailto:ccpr@num.edu.mn)

Workshop on "Tantric Buddhism of Tibet and Mongolia:" March 12, 2011, Tibet House, NY

The Seventh Dalai Lama gave a special transmission of the Five Dakini lineage to his Mongolian disciple, Changkhya Rolpai Dorje, who then became the guru of Manchu emperors. In particular, the Qianlong emperor became a patron of tantric Buddhism and of Buddhist art and literature. The workshop will read through the instruction that the Seventh wrote for Changkhya, which became the basis of the tantric legacy producing 100,000 "Buddhas in one lifetime" throughout Central Asia from that time until today. Workshop presenter: Glenn Mullin. Location: 22 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011

Tel: 212.807.0563 Visit: <http://www.tibethouse.us/programs/full-calendar/view/581147/114>

International Conference: April 20-22, 2011, St. Petersburg, Russia, "XXVI Conference on Oriental and African Studies: Civilization Dialogue"

The Faculty of Oriental Studies at St. Petersburg State University will host this conference on the historiography of the following regions: Arab countries, Afghanistan and Iran, Ottoman empire and Republic of Turkey, China, India, Korea, Mongolia, Tibet, Caucasus and Central Asia.

Visit: <http://www.orient.pu.ru/events/26.php>

Call for Papers: International Conference on "Antoine Mostaert and Mongolian Studies"

August 15-16, 2011, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Mongolian and international academics will be celebrating the 130th anniversary of the birth of the eminent researcher Antoine Mostaert in a conference on the general theme of Antoine Mostaert and Mongolian Studies. The Antoine Mostaert Center for Mongolian Studies (AMC), in collaboration with other

research centers in Mongolia, plans to organize this conference. To participate, contact: [mostaertcenter@magicnet.mn](mailto:mostaertcenter@magicnet.mn); [jamescicm@yahoo.com](mailto:jamescicm@yahoo.com); [cecegdari@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cecegdari@yahoo.co.uk)

Call for Papers: Mongolian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences.

This journal seeks to promote diverse scholarship on all aspects of Mongolian society and to advance knowledge and understanding of it across disciplines through theoretical and empirical research and discussions. Articles are sought that include Mongolian society and culture within a larger analysis of Asian societies or post-communist countries. This is a bilingual journal (Mongolian and English). Book reviews of all current publications are also welcome. Contact: Christopher Kaplonski, Ph.D., [danzan@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:danzan@rci.rutgers.edu) or [cep@mongol.net](mailto:cep@mongol.net); [lodiy@mongol.net](mailto:lodiy@mongol.net)

## Resources

Interactive Database of Buddhist Terminology in Mongolian Literary Translations

This online database, hosted by the department of Mongolian and Tibetan Studies of the Institute of Oriental Studies at Saint Petersburg State University, was developed to assist scholars of Mongolian Buddhist literature with their research on translated texts. The content of this project comes from comparative works by the university graduate students and faculty members who cross-referenced Mongolian translated literature with the original texts written in Tibetan and Sanskrit. Visit: [http://www.orient.pu.ru/docs/final2008\\_2010.pdf](http://www.orient.pu.ru/docs/final2008_2010.pdf)

## Position Openings

Assistant Professor of Central Asian Cultural Geography- University of Kansas, Department of Geography

The University of Kansas Department of Geography has a tenure-track position expected to begin as early as August 18, 2011. The successful candidate is expected to teach two courses per year focused on the Russian/Eurasian region, one of which is on cultural geography. Responsibilities also include advising students enrolled in the undergraduate and graduate Geography programs. The candidate will be expected to conduct research, pursue grant opportunities, and publish in refereed journals related to geography and Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies. Required Qualifications: Ph.D. or ABD in Geography (degree expected by start date of appointment); previous college teaching experience in a related field; an ongoing active research program, as evidenced by some combination of publications, grant activity, map publications, and conference presentations in cultural geography, Central Asian studies and/or Siberian studies; evidence of commitment to university and professional service in geography and Russian and Eurasian Studies; working knowledge of the Russian language; and familiarity with contemporary cultural geography in theory and practice. Qualifications: a record of excellence in teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels; interest in or readiness to teach in Siberian Studies and/or Central Asian studies; competence in a Turkic language or Tajik; a record of refereed publications; a candidate who will contribute to the climate of diversity in the University, including a diversity of scholarly approaches. Visit: <https://jobs.ku.edu> Search for position 00068378

## News and Events

New Theatre Opened in Ulaanbaatar

Blackbox is a new theatre that opened on December 22, 2010. On the theatre's opening day it hosted the "Goo Maral" festival, the formal ceremony at which awards are presented to the best artists, authors, film makers and entertainers. The theatre is located near Boroldoi studio. Contact: [blackbox.mongolia@gmail.com](mailto:blackbox.mongolia@gmail.com)

Biobeers - 6:30 pm, Thursday, January 6th, 2010, Sweet Café, Ulaanbaatar

Biobeers, organised by the Zoological Society of London's Steppe Forward Programme and sponsored by the Wildlife Conservation Society, is a monthly gathering of government and NGO staff, biologists, researchers, and other professionals interested in conservation. Each month, Biobeers sponsors a half-hour presentation on a topic relevant to Mongolian conservation. January presenters: Adyasuren, Ts. from Eco-Asia Environmental Education and Research Institute will give a talk entitled "Environmental Problems in Mongolia." Bayankhishig, N. from the Green Belt Project will give a talk entitled "Implementation of Korea - Mongolia Green Belt Project." The Biobeers is held at Sweet Cafe located behind the Information and Technological National Park and next to the Admon Printing Company, west of Internom Bookstore Building.  
Contact: [mongolbioweb@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mongolbioweb@yahoo.co.uk)

Modern Art Exhibition - "Modern Mongolia: From Steppe to Urban Dynamics," January 7- February 28, Hong Kong

This exhibition will include painting, photography and installations by well-established and upcoming young Mongolian artists. Mongolia underwent a drastic social change in early 1990s, resulting in an unprecedented freedom of theme and medium in art creation. In contrast to the Social Realism style prevailing during the Russian regime, contemporary Mongolian artists once again confront the traditional value and culture of the steppe from personal positions. Dr. Uranchimeg Tsultem will give an accompanying lecture on Modern Mongolian Art on the opening night.

Source: <http://www.artinasia.com/galleryDetail.php?catID=1&galleryID=1855&view=7&eventID=7636>

Symposium - "A Celebration of Arts and Culture in Contemporary Mongolia:" February 2-5, 2011, University of California Stanford and University of California Berkeley

A joint program with the Pan-Asian Music Festival at Stanford, in collaboration with UC Berkeley, this multi-day symposium and concert program brings together Mongolian artists, musicians and scholars to discuss and showcase the current state of the art and culture in contemporary Mongolia. Over the course of four days, scholars and artists will perform, discuss and celebrate the rich arts and cultural heritage of Mongolia at both UC Berkeley and Stanford University campuses. The symposium and lectures are free and open to the public and do not require registration. Concerts and other noted events will require ticket purchase.

Visit: <http://events.berkeley.edu/index.php/calendar/sn/ieas.html> or <http://ceas.stanford.edu/>

Mongolian Publishers will Attend Regional Book Publishers' Meeting in Brunei

Bandar Seri Begawan - The Language and Literature Bureau (DBP) will be hosting this year's annual meeting of a regional group of book publishers. The 18th Annual General Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Publishers Association (APPA) will be held February 24-26, 2011 at the Rizqun International Hotel, Gadong. Members of the APPA from Australia, Bangladesh, China, the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam will also be attending the meeting. Activities will include the 17th APPA Book Awards in three categories: academic books, children's books and general books. Visit: <http://174.142.62.49/index.php/2010120734795/Local-News/brunei-to-host-regional-book-publishers-meet.html>

German Mongolist's Work Attracts Growing Interest

The adventurous life of the German Mongolia expert and traveler, Hermann Consten will be published next year in a biography written by the journalist and former President of the German-Mongolian Society Doris Götting. The book, resulting from five years of research, will provide accounts of Mongolia as experienced by Mr. Consten during the early 20th century, including photographs.

Source: <http://www.mongolianviews.com/2010/12/german-mongolists-work-attracts-growing.html>

Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) on Immigration to be Held in Mongolia

The 10th Conference of the Directors-General of Immigration of the ASEM members will be held in Mongolia in 2011. The meeting considers three basic themes — the detection of unaccompanied minors, the detection of

irregular migrants, and the selection of labor migrants and students.

Source: [http://www.embassyon.at/news/news\\_248.html](http://www.embassyon.at/news/news_248.html)

### St. Petersburg Museums Enter into Cooperation with Mongolia

The Hermitage and the Chamber of Rarities and Curiosities are entering into cooperation with museums in Asia and Africa. Initial contact has been established with Mongolia and Kenya. Currently, the Russian museums are assisting their foreign colleagues with forming exhibitions dedicated to the history of their countries. For the centenary of Mongolia's independence next year, the Hermitage and the Museum of Rarities and Curiosities will make and send copies of unique historical and cultural items and send them to Mongolia. The Museum of Rarities and Curiosities, the oldest museum created in the early 18th century by order of Russian Emperor Peter the Great, has over 700 items. Source: <http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/12/22/37484197.html>

## Recent Publications

"Japanese Mongolian Relations, 1873-1945: Faith, Race and Strategy", James Boyd (2010), Brill. An examination of Japanese-Mongolian relations from the late nineteenth century through to the middle of the twentieth century, which repositions Mongolia in Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese relations. Beginning in 1873, with the intrepid journey to Mongolia by a group of Buddhist monks from one of Kyoto's largest orders, the relationship later included groups and individuals from across Japanese society, with representatives from the military, academia, business and the bureaucracy. The author considers the cultural diplomacy of the *Zenrin kyōkai*, a Japanese quasi-governmental humanitarian organization whose activities in Inner Mongolia in the 1930s and 1940s have been almost completely ignored in earlier studies and whose operations suggest that Japanese-Mongolian relations are quite distinct from other Asian peoples.

"Herdsman to Statesman: The Autobiography of Jamsrangiin Sambuu of Mongolia," translated by Mary Rossabi (2010), Rowman and Littlefield. The autobiography encapsulates the profound changes that transformed Mongolia in the twentieth century. Jamsrangiin Sambuu, born in 1895 to a herder family, rose to become ambassador and eventually president of an industrialized and urbanized Communist country.

"Introduction to Altaic Philology: Turkic, Mongolian, Manchu," Igor de Rachewiltz and Volker Rybatzki, with the collaboration of Hung Chin-fu (2010), Brill. A comprehensive survey of three major Altaic languages, which also reviews the Altaic Hypothesis. The book is intended for use by students at university level as well as by general readers with a basic knowledge of linguistics. The 39 language texts analyzed in the volume are discussed within their historical and cultural context, thus vastly enlarging the scope of the purely linguistic investigation.

"Страны и народы Востока (Countries and Peoples of the East), Edited by M.N. Bogolyubov, I.F. Popova, A.M. Reshetov (2010), Moscow, Vostochnaya Literatura Publishers. The book is part of a series published by the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts and is the first review work on archival materials from the Saint Petersburg Museum of Anthropology and Ethnology. The volume contains a chapter on Mongolian children's poetic folklore.

"Manchu versus Ming: Qing Taizu Nurhaci's "Proclamation" to the Ming dynasty," Tatjana Pang, Giovanni Stary (2010), Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag in Kommission. The first decades of 17th century China were characterized by the struggle of the rising Manchu khanate against the perishing Ming dynasty. This struggle was carried out not only on the battlefield, but also on a psychological-propagandistic level. An example of these events is the so-called "Proclamation of the Latter Jin to the Ming Wanli Emperor" (Hou Jin xi Ming Wanli huangdi wen) attributed to the Manchu khan Nurhaci. Its Manchu text has been discovered by Tatjana A. Pang and Giovanni Stary in the library of the Musée Guimet, Paris, and published in a facsimile edition in 1998, together with hitherto unknown Manchu documents. The present publication gives a full annotated translation of the Manchu and Chinese text, analyzes the historical and literary value of both documents and offers an analysis of that particular time in Chinese history.

"China's Mongols at University: Contesting Cultural Recognition," Zhenzhou Zhao (2010), Lexington Books. This book provides information on the experiences and perceptions of Mongolians as minority students on campus after they have been accorded meaningful access to university.

"Collaborative Nationalism: the Politics of Friendship on China's Mongolian Frontier," Uradyn E. Bulag, (2010), Rowman & Littlefield. Bulag illuminates the competition among China, Japan, Mongolia, and Russia to appropriate the Mongol heritage to buttress their own national identities. Weighing the options the Mongols face, he argues that the ethnopolitical is not so much about identity as it is about the capacity of an ethnic group to decide and organize its own vision of itself, both within its community and in relation to other groups.

"The Troubled Empire: China in the Yuan and Ming Dynasties," Timothy Brook (2010), Belknap Harvard University Press. This book explores what happened to China between these two dynasties by examining the growth of autocracy, social complexity, and commercialization, paying special attention to China's incorporation into the larger South China Sea economy.

"Transeurasian Verbal Morphology in a Comparative Perspective: Genealogy, Contact, Chance," Lars Johanson, Martine Robbeets (2010), Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz. Five linguistic families (Japanese, Korean, Tungusic, Mongolic and Turkic) are analyzed by prominent specialists in their fields, who explore possible shared features of verbal morphology and search for the best way to explain them.

"The Silk Road in World History," Xinru Liu (2010), Oxford University Press. Using supply and demand as the framework for analyzing the formation and development of the Silk Road, the book examines the dynamics of the interactions of the nomadic pastoralists with sedentary agriculturalists, and the spread of new ideas, religions, and values into the world of commerce.

"Aspects of the Maritime Silk Road: from the Persian Gulf to the East China Sea," edited by Ralph Kauz (2010), Harrassowitz Verlag. In recent years, trade, cultural exchange and transfer of knowledge in the Indian Ocean have increasingly become the focus of various scholarly disciplines. The concept of the Indian Ocean as a coherent space of transfer is adopted in this volume. The time period ranges from the 14th to the 17th century.

"Scholar Forum: The Politics of the Environment (Regional Focus: Central Asia and Mongolia," Open Society Foundation, (2010). Photographs from Kyrgyzstan, submitted by Social Work Fellowship Program grantee Nail Nasritdinov, reveal that economic hardships and dangerous conditions are a daily reality for some sections of Kyrgyz society, while essays from Mongolia highlight efforts made for children's rights at the grassroots level.

"Синьцзян-Уйгурский автономный район Китая в начале XXI века (Xinjiang-Uighur Autonomous Region at the Beginning of the XXI Century), A. V. Bondarenko (2010), Institut Dalnego Vostoka RAN. The first Russian research on the contemporary situation of the Xinjiang-Uighur region in the international context. The research discusses the broad spectrum of internal issues and external political as well as economic developments of XUAR, from 1990s-2008.

"Pastors nomades de Mongolie: des sociétés nomades et des états (Pastoral Nomads of Mongolia: Nomadic Society and the State), Linda Gardelle (2010), Buchet Chastel. This publication examines the very specific binding of nomadic herders in Mongolia to their state. In many ways, Mongolia is exceptional: nomadic pastoralism is built into a national symbol, and in recent years, farmers have tried to adapt, with some success, an ancestral way of life to new technologies.

"Environmental Change in Siberia: Earth Observation, Field Studies and Modeling (Advances in Global Change Research)," edited by Heiko Balzter (2010), Springer. The book investigates disturbance processes in the taiga forest with a focus on fire and logging, provides observational evidence of evergreen conifer invasion into larch dominated zones which could be a sign of climate change, and describes vegetation model predictions of shifting vegetation zones. Satellite observations of snow cover in Siberia are presented, and observed changes in river runoff described. The interactions between the hydrological cycle, the biosphere and the atmosphere are looked at from a variety of disciplinary viewpoints.

"Dukhan, a Turkic Variety of Northern Mongolia: Description and Analysis (Turcologica)," Elisabetta Ragagnin (2010), Harrassowitz Verlag. A grammatical description of Dukhan, an endangered non-written Turkic language spoken in northern Mongolia by approximately 500 people. Most of the Dukhans are engaged in reindeer breeding and follow a nomadic lifestyle in the forested taiga areas of the Tsagaan Nuur county in the Khovsgol province of Mongolia. This book is based on the material collected by the author during intensive fieldwork.



"Vegetation Dynamics of Mongolia (Geobotany)," P.D. Gunin (April, 2011), Springer. Pollen profiles from lakes, plant macrofossils and other data over the last 15,000 years show the dynamic nature of Mongolian vegetation. Currently Mongolian society is experiencing much human-driven economic development which increases pressure on its vegetation. The Great Khural Laws of 1995 forcefully addressed such environmental concerns with the expanded establishment of National Reserves and Parks. But continued effort and vigilance must be expended to insure that Mongolian society will continue to be sustained by its vegetation. This book highlights work such as conserving and restoring plant diversity in various ecosystems and makes recommendations for sustaining the vegetation basis of the nomadic Mongolian society

"Popular Religion and Shamanism," Ma Xisha and Meng Huiying (March, 2011), Brill. Section I: Popular Religion discusses the evolution of organized lay movements over a period of ten centuries. Part II: Shamanism reflects the revived interest of scholars in traditional beliefs and culture that reemerged with the "open" policy in China in the 1970s. Two of the essays included in this section address shamanism in northeast China where the traditions played an important role in the cultures of the Manchu, Mongol, Sibe, Daur, Oroqen, Evenki, and Hezhen.