This Month in Mongolian Studies – November 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 and/or the editor, Marissa Smith, at msmith@mongoliacenter.org.

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ACMS Sponsored Programs and Events

New Resident Director in Ulaanbaatar Office
In early November 2011, Dr. David Tinnin began his tenure as the new Resident Director of the Ulaanbaatar office of the ACMS. He completed his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees at the University of New Mexico and his Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dave is a biologist who has spent the last fifteen years studying mammal and parasite biodiversity, systematics, and the ecology of wildlife borne diseases in the U.S., Mongolia, and South America. He has been a Principle Investigator for a multi-year NSF funded project studying parasite biodiversity in Mongolia that has been supported by the ACMS. He is a Research Associate of the H.W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology of the University of Nebraska State Museum and has served as a as a Biologist at the Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Fort Collins, Colorado. Dave can be reached at dtinnin@mongoliacenter.org.

New Editor of This Month in Mongolian Studies
Thank to Marissa Smith who has taken over the editorship of this monthly newsletter "This Month in Mongolian Studies." Marissa first came to Mongolia as an School for International Training (SIT) student. She has participated in the ACMS Summer Language Program, and she is a long time member of the ACMS. She is currently a PhD student in Anthropology at Princeton University and is conducting field research in Erdenet, Mongolia. Please send announcements you may have to include in this newsletter to Marissa at msmith@mongoliacenter.org.

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 October 2011 can be viewed on the ACMS library website at: http://www.mongoliacenter.org/library/index.php
Jan Bemmann; U Erdenebat; Ernst Pohl. “Mongolian-German Karakorum expedition”. /Forschungen zur Archäologie Aussereuropäischer Kulturen, Bd. 8/. Wiesbaden : Reichert Verlag.


Ursula Brosseder,. “Xiongnu archaeology multidisciplinary perspectives of the first steppe empire in Inner Asia”. Institut für Kunstgeschichte und Archäologie, Bonn contributions to Asian archaeology, Vol. 5. Bonn Vor- und Frühgeschichtliche Archäologie.


Call for Papers, Conferences and Workshops


Call for Papers, Conference: **Nineteenth Annual Central Eurasian Studies Conference** - The Association of Central Eurasian Students (ACES) at Indiana University invites panel and individual paper proposals for the Nineteenth Annual Central Eurasian Studies Conference to be held Saturday, March 3rd, 2012 on the Bloomington campus of Indiana University. Graduate students, faculty, and independent scholars are cordially invited to submit abstracts of papers addressing all topics pertaining to Central Eurasian Studies. Deadline: November 11, 2011. Visit:[http://www.indiana.edu/~aces](http://www.indiana.edu/~aces).

Call for Papers, Conference: **The Tung Lin Kok Yuen Conference: Buddhism and the Political Process**, April 13-15, 2012, University of Toronto Scarborough. The proposed conference aims to construct a bridge between the disciplines of Buddhist studies and political science, with additional contributions from anthropologists, sociologists and historians, on the relevance of Buddhist categories and practices for the political process. Deadline: November 18, 2011. Visit: [http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~humdiv/prg_bs_events.html](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~humdiv/prg_bs_events.html).

Call for Papers, Conference: **The First Princeton Young Scholars’ Interdisciplinary Conference on Soviet Science and Technology: The Great Experiment Revisited: Soviet**
Science and Techno-utopianism. Princeton University, February 10-11, 2012. Soviet claims of an alternate anti-capitalist modernity were based on a socialist understanding of and command over nature. By the 1950s, scientists and engineers composed the largest portion of the Soviet elite. From works of science fiction like Bogdanov’s Red Star to the Soviet atomic bomb, from importing Ford tractors to cloning IBM computers, the Soviet Union placed science and technology at the forefront of its vision of human progress. Home to many infamous ecological disasters, the Soviet Union was a place where the deeds, words and images of technological utopianism had transformative power over nature and society. The conference will unite and coordinate scholarship by young scholars on the historical personalities, texts, images, representations, and institutions that were involved in the successes and failures of the Soviet Union as a modern scientific and technological superpower. In particular we aim to explore the links between cultural form and utopian ideals and the planning and realization of technological megaprojects by the Soviet state. Such questions must be answered through an interdisciplinary approach that combines scholars of Slavic literature, socialist art, architecture, and the history of science and technology. Graduate students and young scholars who are interested in participating in the conference should submit a one-page paper proposal and one-page curriculum vita (in Word or PDF format) to Robert MacGregor (rmacgreg@princeton.edu) and Ksenia Tatarchenko (ktatarch@princeton.edu). Limited travel funding is available. Please indicate if you wish to be considered for subsidized travel. Notification of acceptance will be made in December. For additional information about the conference, please contact the conference organizers at the addresses above. The conference will feature a keynote by Loren Graham (Professor Emeritus, MIT), a roundtable discussion of Princeton and outside faculty, and a series of panels of graduate student papers with commentary. The format will be commentary and discussion on pre-circulated papers of 10-15 pages posted online in advance. All participants will be invited to a dinner. Deadline: November 20, 2011.

Call for Papers, Conference: 21st Annual Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, February 10-11, 2012, Columbia University. This two-day conference provides a forum for students from institutions around the world to meet and share ideas and research with their peers. Participants gain valuable experience in presenting their work for discussion with other graduate students and Columbia faculty. We welcome applications from graduate students engaged in research on all fields in East Asian Studies, including, but not limited to, history, literature, political science, art history, religion, sociology, business, economics, and anthropology. Participants can take part in the conference as presenters and/or discussants. Presenters deliver 15-minute talks that summarize research in progress. Discussants introduce the panelists and facilitate the 20-minute discussion session following the presentations.Deadline: November 27, 2011. Visit: http://www.columbia.edu/cu/ealac/gradconf/

Call for Papers, Conference: Reconsidering Stagnation. International Workshop at the University of Amsterdam, March 30-31, 2012. The purpose of this workshop is to bring together scholars working on the Brezhnev era and rethink the narrative that views it as a long period of stagnation, particularly in the realms of Soviet society and culture. Deadline for proposals: December 1, 2011. Visit: http://stagnation.historylounge.com/

Call for Papers, Workshop: Workshop on Buddhists and Buddhism in the History of 20th Century China, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, May 30-31, 2012. The organizers of the
Workshop on Buddhists and Buddhism in the History of 20th Century China—sponsored by the Centre for East Asian Studies and the Centre for the Study of Humanistic Buddhism at the Chinese University of Hong Kong—announce an open call for individual research paper submissions. The workshop will discuss new scholarship that offers fresh perspectives on the significance of Buddhist figures, organizations, cultures, thought, and practices within the broader history and historiography of twentieth-century China. Applicants should send a CV and a 300-word abstract to buddhismworkshop@gmail.com. Deadline: Dec. 1, 2011.


Call for Articles: The Association for Central Asian Civilizations and Silk Road Studies will publish annually an edited collection of articles (or monographs) to promote academic exchange among researchers currently working in the field. The publications will cover a wide range of topics relevant to the history and culture of this far-flung area ranging from historical issues to varied cultural interests such as language, religion, music, and art. Each annual publication will have a major theme linking the submitted articles. The tentative topic of "The Silk Road: Interwoven History" has been chosen for the inaugural issue to be published in 2012. Please submit articles (5000 - 9000 words) on recent research related to this theme in both PDF and DOC (Word) files by email attachment to editor@acansrs.org. Deadline: December 30, 2011. Visit: http://acansrs.org/Our%20Publication.html

Call for Papers, Conference: The Institute of Buddhist Studies 2nd Annual Graduate Student Symposium: Globalization, Tourism, Modernization, and Religions of Asia, March 16, 2012, Berkeley California. Both in Asia and in the West, religions are transformed by globalization, tourism, and modernization. This conference invites graduate students to submit proposals considering how one or more of these topics affect Religions of Asia, either in the US or abroad. Proposals should be between 150 to 200 words, and include the paper’s title and the author’s name, affiliation, and contact information. Please submit proposals tocourtney.bruntz@gmail.com no later than January 1, 2012. Acceptees will be notified by February 1, 2012 and full papers must be submitted by March 1, 2012. Deadline: January 1, 2012. Visit: http://www.shin-ibs.edu

Call for Papers, Conference: 22nd Conference of the International Association of Historians of Asia (IAHA), Surakata, Indonesia, 2nd -5th July 2012. Panel: The Cold War in Asia. The Cold War is now over but that era continues to remain a vibrant field for research. Over the past decade, as new archival materials were being declassified, there has been a growing body of literature on the Cold War in Asia which provides new interpretations and perspectives. In addition to re-examining old issues, many of these new studies de-center the Cold War from
Europe and instead foreground Asia, arguing that Asian developments have been central to the global Cold War. This panel welcomes contributions which discourse on any topic relating to the Cold War in Asia. Interpretative accounts which look at the issues and processes in a new perspective, use newly declassified documents, cover less-known battlefields of the Cold War (e.g., Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Burma, Irian Jaya, East Timor, Tibet, and Mongolia), or investigate the impact of the Cold War on the internal and economic policies of the various Asian countries, are especially welcomed. Those interested to contribute a paper in the panel, please send an abstract of 250-300 words to the conveners. Please do not forget to register with the 22nd IAHA Conference Secretariat: iaha22indonesia@gmail.com. Panel Conveners: Dr. Richard Mason, Institute of Occidental Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, mason5565@yahoo.com Dr. Balazs Szalontai, History Department, Center for Cold War International History Studies, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China, aoverl@yahoo.com.uk

Call for Papers, Conference: Rising Asia, Anxious Europe, University of Copenhagen, May 2-3, 2012. Scholars are invited to reflect, describe and even speculate on (from their own fields of specialization and vantage points) the current state as well as the future of Europe's 'new' engagement with Asia. Scholars are particularly invited to submit empirical studies, ethnographies and historically grounded accounts of the event - of the rise of Asia - as witnessed in a variety of settings and localities. Deadline: January 15, 2012. Visit: http://asiandynamics.ku.dk/english/rising_asia_anxious_europe/call/.

Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

Fellowship: Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Fellowship. The CAORC Multi-Country Fellowship Program supports advanced regional or trans-regional research in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences for U.S. doctoral candidates and scholars who have already earned their Ph.D. Preference will be given to candidates examining comparative and/or cross-regional research. Applicants are eligible to apply as individuals or in teams. Scholars must carry out research in two or more countries outside the United States, at least one of which hosts a participating American overseas research center. Approximately nine awards of up to $12,000 each will be given. Deadline: January 17, 2012. Visit: http://www.caorc.org/programs/multi.htm Call for Applications: Central Asia and Caucasus Research and Training Initiative.

Fellowship: The International Higher Education Support Program is pleased to invite applications for Junior and Senior Fellowships of the Central Asia and Caucasus Research and Training Initiative (CARTI). The program is open to young academics working towards their first doctorate and recent graduates of PhD or equivalent programs in Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. CARTI seeks to assist the motivated young academics in crucial early stages of their careers to gain critical competence with the foundational and current scholarship and active involvement in international intellectual exchange and debate in their subject areas. With the
support of CARTI, the Fellows engage state-of-the-art resources, theories, methodologies and approaches to their research and teaching in the subjects and areas of importance to the academic and social development in the region. Application deadline: November 7, 2011. Visit: http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/carti

PhD Fellowship: The doctoral program in Buddhist Studies at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany offers a PhD scholarship for a dissertation project related to Buddhism. The doctoral program in Buddhist Studies at the Ludwigs-Maximilian-Universität in Munich is based on a cooperation of Asian Studies (Indology, Japanology, Sinology, Tibetology) and Religious Studies and promotes and supervises PhD theses related to Buddhism within a broad range of subjects and disciplines. Deadline: November 15, 2011. Apply at: http://www.graduatecenter-lmu.de/buddstud/index.php.

Fellowship: The Social Science Research Council is pleased to announce the launch of a major new project and grants program entitled “New Directions in the Study of Prayer.” The project aims to generate innovative research on practices of prayer and to foster the development of an interdisciplinary network of scholars engaged in the study of prayer. Supported with funding from the John Templeton Foundation, and developed in conjunction with the SSRC’s program on Religion and the Public Sphere, the project will be led by a multi-disciplinary advisory committee, to be chaired by Columbia University's Courtney Bender. The project invites proposals from scholars in all disciplines for studies that will enhance knowledge of the social, cultural, psychological, and cognitive dimensions of prayer, and of its origins, variations, and correlations in human life. Approximately twenty to twenty-five research grants, ranging from $50,000 to $200,000, will be awarded. Both individual and collaborative projects will be considered, and a small number of journalism grants, of up to $50,000 each, will also be awarded. All grantees will be asked to participate in a series of interdisciplinary workshops, conferences, and online initiatives organized in conjunction with the project. The SSRC has issued detailed requests for proposals from both researchers and journalists. Deadline: The deadline for Letters of Intent is December 1, 2011. Visit: http://www.ssrc.org/programs/new-directions-in-the-study-of-prayer/

Call for Proposals: Open Society Arts and Culture Program-Strengthening Civil Society through Arts & Culture. The program strives to encourage broad-based critical reflection and catalyze social action in parts of the world where open societies are absent or weak, and where the cultural rights of minority groups are endangered. The aim is to strengthen alternative and autonomous cultural infrastructures and innovative arts initiatives, to raise professional standards in the art world in the Arts and Culture Program’s regions of activity, and to promote reform in the arena of cultural policy. Activities shall include: Cultural production; Creating or strengthening cultural platforms; Professional development and capacity-building. Projects from Mongolia are invited to apply. Deadline: December 31, 2012. Visit: http://tinyurl.com/654jagd

Fellowships: The Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, “Imperial Legacies and International Politics in the Post-Soviet Space?” The Fellows Program brings together recent PhDs and senior scholars from the US and former Soviet space to consider a common theme spanning the social sciences and humanities. The program is coordinated by
faculty from across Harvard University whose research interests include aspects of the selected theme. Deadline: January 9, 2012. Visit: [http://daviscenter.fas.harvard.edu](http://daviscenter.fas.harvard.edu)

**Fellowship: UNESCO/Japan Young Researchers’ Fellowship.** The UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Program funded under the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the capacity-building of Human Resources will aim, in particular, to impact on capacity-building and research activities in the following areas: 1. Environment (with particular attention to Water Sciences); 2. Intercultural Dialogue; 3. Information and Communication Technologies; and 4. Peaceful conflict resolution. Mongolians are eligible to apply. Application deadline: January 13, 2012. Visit: [http://tinyurl.com/3dfm8eq](http://tinyurl.com/3dfm8eq)

**Postdoctoral Fellowship: The Johns Hopkins University Program in East Asian Studies** invites applications for the Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in East Asian Studies for two fellows, who will be appointed to a one-year term renewable for a second year, beginning July 1, 2013. One position requires a specialization in early modern or modern Japanese history, the other in East Asian humanities, including social or cultural anthropology, art history, literature, or philosophy. The fellowship period will be for two years, from fall 2012 until spring 2014. Fellows will teach one course each semester and are also expected to pursue research that will make a significant contribution to the field of East Asian studies. Candidates should have a recent Ph.D. (received between January 1, 2009 and June 30, 2012). Contact: To apply, send a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a dissertation outline or writing sample, and a sample course syllabus to EAS Coordinator Tyree Powell at [tyree@jhu.edu](mailto:tyree@jhu.edu). Please also ask three referees to send letters of recommendation to Mr. Powell. Deadline: January 15, 2012.

**Call for Proposals: Central Eurasia Project.** The Open Society Central Eurasia Project uses grantmaking to international and regional NGOs, academic institutions, think tanks and other structures to support their work, help build local capacity, bring international expertise to bear on the region, and promote cooperation between local activists and international civic movements. The ultimate goal of such activity is to strengthen civic leaders in the region and to construct support networks for them within international structures and movements. Central Eurasia Project grantmaking generally dovetails with its research and advocacy agenda. Funds are currently available in the following programmatic areas: Human Rights, Labor Migration, Transparency and Consumer Protection, Transparency of Western Military and Security Cooperation, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan. Deadline: Letters of inquiry are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year 2011.

**Position Openings**

<no listings this month>

**Resources**

<no listings this month>

**News and Events**

**Monthly Biobeers Talk:** First Thursday of the month (November 3rd), Sweet Cafe (located behind the Information and Technological National Park and next to the Admon Printing Company, west of Internom Bookstore Building). People are requested to arrive after 6pm, in time for the talk to start at 6.30. Biobeers 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, followed by an informal gathering to discuss activities and issues of interest. Biobeers is an opportunity to find out what is happening in the field of conservation in Mongolia, talk informally to other researchers and peers in your field, and share information about issues critical to the environment and people of Mongolia. Biobeers is organised by the Zoological Society of London's Steppe Forward Programme and sponsored by the Wildlife Conservation Society. At Biobeers the beer is on us! This month: 1. Tserennadmid.M from Snow Leopard Trust, Mongolia will give a talk entitled "PASTORAL PRACTICE CHANGE AND HERDERS’ ATTITUDE TOWARDS WILDLIFE IN SOUTH GOBI MONGOLIA" 2. Uuganbadrakh.O from Mongolian State University of Agriculture will give a talk entitled "USING REMOTE SENSING FOR SMALL MAMMAL STUDY."


Lectures: John Hare will discuss his work with wild Bactrian camel conservation including his recent expedition to Xinjiang. November 10, 2011, Royal Geographic Society, London (visit [http://www.transglobe-expedition.org/page/latest-news](http://www.transglobe-expedition.org/page/latest-news) for ticketing) and November 11th, The Ebenezer Chapel, Riverside, Burrowbridge, Bridgwater, Somerset. TA7 ORE. Contact 07860480035 or 078920654, constantine.ebenzer@virgin.net for ticketing. Visit: [http://www.wildcamels.com](http://www.wildcamels.com) and [http://www.thesouthernderreporter.co.uk/news/local-headlines/a_camel_s_best_friend_1_1918585](http://www.thesouthernderreporter.co.uk/news/local-headlines/a_camel_s_best_friend_1_1918585) for a short article about Mr. Hare and his current lecture series.

**Exhibition:** “Chinggis Khaan: an Exhibition:” Mongolian National Museum, until February 2012. The exhibition includes precious objects from the USA and Mongolia which are on display for the first time and highlight the period of Chinggis Khaan and Great Mongolian Empire. The goal is to familiarize local and international audiences with the richness of Mongolian culture & history. Some of the objects have been viewed by 300,000 visitors internationally while traveling in Singapore & the USA since February of 2009 and now arriving for the first time in the land of their origin.

Exhibition: “Xu Beihong: Pioneer of Modern Chinese Painting” and “Threads of Heaven: Silken Legacy of China’s Last Dynasty” (Denver Art Museum, October 30, 2011 through January 29, 2012) explore this mysterious and ceremonial country during two time periods—the latter years
of the Qing Dynasty (1644–1912), and the subsequent formation of the Republic of China during the early to middle 20th century. Threads of Heaven illustrates the court and culture of the Qing Dynasty and the final days of empire in China through more than 100 dazzling pieces ranging from court robes to intricately embroidered accessories to pictorial hangings.


**Archeologists** use drone to create a 3-D model of Scythian kurgan at the Tukea site in Russia’s Altai region. Source: http://www.livescience.com/16443-micro-drone-archaeology-burial-sites.html

**Recent Publications**

**“Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar Clean Air Project : Safeguards Report (Vol. 2 of 2),” October 2011.** Abstract: The development objective of the Ulaanbaatar Clean Air Project is to connect consumers in ger areas of Ulaanbaatar to heating services producing less particulate matter emissions and to develop selected medium-term particulate matter abatement measures in Ulaanbaatar. Negative impacts include: air pollution, water pollution, solid wastage, hazardous materials, and noise pollution. Mitigation measures include: 1) the company has a wastewater recycling plant which consists primarily of solids settling, after which all treated water is recycled back to the process; 2) all this waste is stockpiled at the plant site; 3) necessary measures are taken for proper storage of hazardous materials; and 4) take necessary measures to reduce or eliminate (fuel change, cover materials storage containers etc.) or move to more isolated area. Download at: http://go.worldbank.org/6NU5ID19U0

**“Asia’s Rising Energy and Resource Nationalism,” The National Bureau of Asian Research, September 2011.** This year’s Energy Security Report overviews the dramatic developments taking place in Asian energy markets and their geopolitical implications. The report includes an examination of the connection between energy insecurity and control of major sea lanes, the impact of Asia’s national oil companies on the global industry, and the emergence of rare earth elements as an arena for national competition. Table of Contents: Resource Nationalism in the Asia-Pacific: Why Does It Matter?, Llewelyn Hughes; Energy Nationalism Goes to Sea in Asia, Gabe Collins and Andrew S. Erickson; Asia's National Oil Companies and the Competitive Landscape of the International Oil Industry, Mikkal E. Herberg; Rare Earth Minerals and Commodity Resource Nationalism, Yufan Hao and Weihua Liu; Rare Earth Trade Challenges and Sino-Japanese Relations: A Rise of Resource Nationalism, Jane Nakano. Free download until November 22, 2011 and videos of launch event talks: http://www.nbr.org/research/activity.aspx?id=162

**“The Constitution and Contestation of Darhad Shamans' Power in Contemporary Mongolia,” Judith Hangartner, 2011.** This book offers an in-depth insight into post-socialist rural shamans in Mongolia thereby making a rare but important contribution to the ethnography of both Inner Asia and Southern Siberia. It examines the social making of shamans, in particular those of the Shishget depression of the northernmost borders of Mongolia. By analysing practices, discourses and performances in local and national arenas, the author traces the social constitution of the shamans’ inspirational power, examines the shamans’ performance of power during the seance, discusses the economy of reputation of successful shamans and
scourns their legitimizing practices. The study will be welcomed by students of social/cultural anthropology and religious studies with a particular interest in shamanism or ritual studies.

“Soviet and Post-Soviet Identities,” edited by Mark Bassin and Catriona Kelly. Coming June 2012. Since the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, questions of identity have dominated the culture not only of Russia, but of all the countries of the former Soviet bloc. This timely collection examines the ways in which cultural activities such as fiction, TV, cinema, architecture and exhibitions have addressed these questions and also describes other cultural flashpoints, from attitudes to language to the use of passports. It discusses definitions of political and cultural nationalism, as well as the myths, institutions and practices that moulded and expressed national identity. From post-Soviet recollections of food shortages to the attempts by officials to control popular religion, it analyses a variety of unexpected and compelling topics to offer fresh insights about this key area of world culture. Illustrated with numerous photographs, it presents the results of recent research in an accessible and lively way. (Includes one chapter on Kalmykia: From the USSR to the Orient: national and ethnic symbols in the city text of Elista, Elza-Bair Guchinova.)


“Mapping Mongolia: Situating Mongolia in the World from Geologic Time to the Present,” edited by Paula Sabloff, 2010. With its small population and low GDP, Mongolia is frequently deemed "unique" or tacked onto various area studies programs: Inner Asia, Central Asia, Northeast Asia, or Eurasia. This volume is a response to the concern that countries such as Mongolia are marginalized when academia and international diplomacy reconfigure area studies borders in the postsocialist era. Would marginalized countries such as Mongolia benefit from a reconfiguration of area studies programs or even from another way of thinking about grouping nations? This book uses Mongolia as a case study to critique the areastudies methodology and test the efficacy of another grouping methodology, the "-scapes" method proposed by Arjun Appadurai. Could the application of this approach for tracing individuals' social networks by theme (finance, ethnicity, ideology, media, and technology) be applied to nation-states or peoples? Could it then prevent Mongolia from slipping through the cracks of academia and international diplomacy? Experts from ecology, genetics, archaeology, history, anthropology, and international diplomacy contemplate these issues in their chapters on Mongolia through the ages. Their work includes over 30 maps to help situate Mongolia in its geologic, geographic, economic, and cultural matrix. By comparing maps of different time periods and intellectual orientations, readers can consider for themselves the place of Mongolia in the world community and the relative benefits of these and other grouping methodologies.

“Japan’s Dream of World Empire: The Tanaka Memorial”, edited by Carl Crow, 2010, Routledge. Described as the Japanese Mein Kampf, this small pamphlet outlines the history of Japan which by the late 1920s was, according to the author, becoming a dream for world domination. Although this did not come to fruition, the book nonetheless represents a fascinating insight into the national psyche and political and military planning of the Japanese in the first half of the twentieth century. It focuses particularly on the Japanese policy in Manchuria and Mongolia.
“Siberia: a Cultural History”, A. J. Haywood, 2010, Oxford University Press. The author offers a detailed account of the architectural and cultural landmarks of cities such as Irkutsk, Tobolsk, Barnaul, and Novosibirsk. Magnificent rivers and lakes: Lake Baikal, the Ob, Irtysh, Yenisey, Angara, Lena and Amur rivers. Writer Anton Chekhov described some, polar explorer Fridtjof Nansen and the eccentric British merchant captain Joseph Wiggins navigated others. The cities and the railways: High fashion and low life, traffic-choked streets, and chimney stacks. Siberia’s cities bring a madding crowd far into the remote taiga-linked by the Trans-Siberian Railway, the nineteenth-century "camel track."

“Historical Dictionary of Mongolia: third edition”, Alan J. K. Sanders, 2010, Scarecrow Press. The third edition of the Historical Dictionary of Mongolia greatly expands on the previous edition through a chronology, an introductory essay, a bibliography, appendixes, and over 1000 cross-referenced dictionary entries on important people, places, events, and institutions, as well as significant political, economic, social, and cultural aspects.

“The A to Z of the Mongol World Empire”, Paul D. Buell, 2010, Scarecrow Press. The book examines the history of the Mongol Empire, the pre-imperial era of Mongolian history that preceded it, and the various Mongol successor states that continued to dominate Eurasia long after the breakdown of Mongol unity.

“Ti zhi zheng ce yu Menggu zu xiang cun she hui bian qian : State policy & changes in Mongolian rural society”, Hao Yaming, Bao Zhiming zhu, 2010. The manuscript to the main line of Mongolian rural social change, the author combed the areas surveyed in each period selected institutional policy, social culture and living conditions of local residents, showing the state system in recent years, policy impact on village social life, and the Mongolian countryside issues related to social and cultural changes to do a systematic analysis and outlook.

“The Horse, the Wheel, and Language: How Bronze-Age Riders from the Eurasian Steppes Shaped the Modern World”, David W. Anthony, 2010, Princeton. Linking prehistoric archaeological remains with the development of language, author identifies the prehistoric peoples of central Eurasia's steppe grasslands as the original speakers of Proto-Indo-European, and shows how their innovative use of the ox wagon, horseback riding, and the warrior’s chariot turned the Eurasian steppes into a thriving transcontinental corridor of communication, commerce, and cultural exchange. He explains how they spread their traditions and gave rise to important advances in copper mining, warfare, and patron-client political institutions, thereby ushering in an era of vibrant social change.

“The stone age of Chukotka, Northeastern Siberia: (new materials)”, Margarita A. Kiryak (Dikova), translated and edited by Richard L. Bland and Yaroslav V. Kuzmin, 2010, Archaeopress. This work introduces all the multicomponent artifact complexes from the Stone Age Chukotkan archaeological sites (north-eastern Siberia) discovered by the author so that researchers can have a broad access to them. Illustrative material has been selected (including those objects that are few in number, as well as isolated finds) in order to give this work the character of a primary source.
“Рунические памятники уйгурского каганата и история евразийских степей (The runic monuments of the Uighur Khaganate and the history of Eurasian steppes). S. G. Klyachtoronyj, 2010, The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, Russian Academy of Sciences. The book provides possible interpretations to the runic monuments in VIII, mostly recovered by the author during field work of the Soviet-Mongolian historical and cultural expedition (1969-1990). He examined in the context of the general history of the Eurasian steppes, ancient and medieval history of tribal alliances Oguro / Öguz, most of which for several centuries were "desyatiplennyye Uighurs," and the story they have created.

“Manchu: A textbook for reading documents”, Gertraude Roth Li, 2010, National Foreign Language Resource Center. This book offers students a tool to gain a good grounding in the Manchu language. Instead of having to depend on a formal Manchu class -- Manchu courses are only rarely taught at universities anywhere -- students are able study Manchu on their own time and at their own speed. If studied in its entirety, the material in this book represents the approximate equivalent of a three-semester course (one year and a half).

“China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia”, Peter Perdue, 2010, Harvard. From about 1600 to 1800, the Qing empire of China expanded to unprecedented size. Through astute diplomacy, economic investment, and a series of ambitious military campaigns into the heart of Central Eurasia, the Manchu rulers defeated the Zunghar Mongols, and brought all of modern Xinjiang and Mongolia under their control, while gaining dominant influence in Tibet. The China we know is a product of these vast conquests.

“Qing Governors and Their Provinces: The Evolution of Territorial Administration in China, 1644-1796”, R. Kent Guy, 2010, University of Washington. During the Qing dynasty (1644-1911), the province emerged as an important element in the management of the expanding Chinese empire, with governors - those in charge of these increasingly influential administrative units - playing key roles. R. Kent Guy's comprehensive study of this shift concentrates on the governorship system during the reigns of the Shunzhi, Kangxi, Yongzheng, and Qianlong emperors, who ruled China from 1644 to 1796.

“Protest with Chinese Characteristics: Demonstrations, Riots, and Petitions in the Mid-Qing Dynasty”, Ho-fung Hung, 2011, Columbia. The author samples from mid-Qing petitions and humble plaints to the emperor. He revisits rallies, riots, market strikes, and other forms of contention rarely considered in previous studies. Drawing on new world history, which accommodates parallels and divergences between political-economic and cultural developments East and West, Hung shows how the centralization of political power and an expanding market, coupled with a persistent Confucianist orthodoxy, shaped protesters’ strategies and appeals in Qing China.

“China’s Tibetan Frontiers”, Beth Meriam, 2011. Brill. Synthesizing anthropological insight with Tibetological rigour, the study shows how policies and social categories are anything but self-evident or monolithic: instead, local people are actively engaged in creating, reinterpreting and modifying official policies in practice.

“The Hidden Life of the Sixth Dalai Lama”, Series: Studies in Modern Tibetan
Culture, Ngawang Lhundrup Dargyé, translated by Simon Wickham-Smith Preface by Kurtis R. Schaeffer, 2011, Lexington Books. The third and longest part is an account of the final thirty years of the lama's life, and his activity in Mongolia as an influential Buddhist teacher, including a lengthy and moving description of his death. The final part includes a list of his students and, most interestingly perhaps, a theological and philosophical justification for the coexistence of the Sixth and Seventh Dalai Lamas.


“Великие открытия русских ученых в Центральной Азии (Great discoveries of Russian researchers in Central Asia)”, Vorobyova-Desyatovskaya, Margarita Yosifovna, 2011, Izdatelstvo A. Goloda. The book is devoted to the history of Central Asia - the gradual filling in blank spots on the map of the region, opening the forgotten cultures that flourished here in the I millennium AD as well as the geopolitical rivalry between Russia and Britain - the two empires fought each other for influence over the fate of Central Asian countries. The book includes extensive chapters on Xiongnu as well as Mongolian empires.

“Труды востоковедов в годы блокады Ленинграда (Studies of Orientalists at the time of the Leningrad Blockade)”, 2011, Russian Academy of Sciences. This publication features miraculously preserved materials, drafts of unpublished works, reports, correspondence, notes, previously unpublished research work before and during the World War II. The book includes interesting articles such as “Устав шаманской службы маньчжуров (Manchurian codes of shaman services), “Хубилганы (Prophets)”. 


“Russo-Japanese Relations, 1905-17: From Enemies to Allies”, Peter Berton, 2011, Routledge. This book provides a detailed analysis of how this remarkable turnaround came about. It traces the evolution of relations between the two powers through the conclusion of three public and secret agreements in 1907, 1910, and 1912, and the controversial secret alliance of 1916. The book argues that careful examination of complete records of negotiations from both sides definitively proves the case for Germany, not the United States, as the target of the secret treaty.

“Chiang Kaishek's Last Ambassador to Moscow: The Wartime Diaries of Fu Bingchang”, Yee-Wah Foo, 2011, Palgrave Macmillan. This study examines wartime Chinese-Soviet relations from a Moscow-based, Chinese perspective at the ambassadorial level. The book includes descriptions of everyday life in Moscow, of embassy business, of contemporary events and diplomacy, of intelligence operations, of meetings with Stalin, and of communications to and
from Chongqing.

“Бурзайж байна уу? Нинжа нар, тэдний зохион байгуулагт хийгээд амь зуулга (Are you getting loaded? Ninja miners, their self-organization and survival)”, G. Munkh-erdene, 2011, National University of Mongolia. The book is based on field research carried out by doctoral candidate from the university at the mining sites. The ninjas are so-called independent miners who occupy the land with rich mineral deposits and mine without advanced technical tools.

“Empires in World History: Power and the Politics of Difference”, Jane Burbank, Frederick Cooper, 2011, Princeton. Burbank and Cooper delve into the militant monotheism of Byzantium, the Islamic Caliphates, and the short-lived Carolingians, as well as the pragmatically tolerant rule of the Mongols and Ottomans, who combined religious protection with the politics of loyalty. Burbank and Cooper discuss the influence of empire on capitalism and popular sovereignty, the limitations and instability of Europe’s colonial projects, Russia’s repertoire of exploitation and differentiation, as well as the "empire of liberty"—devised by American revolutionaries and later extended across a continent and beyond.

“The Mongol Empire”, Angus Stewart, 2012, Hambledon Continuum. While the Mongol steppe-empire was not unprecedented, Genghis Khan transcended his predecessors in terms of conquest, and in terms of massacre. Certainly, while the unified Mongol Empire was short lived, none of the world that it touched would ever be the same again. Angus Stewart provides a gripping account of the history of the Mongol empire, drawing on his personal research and offering a fresh, engaging perspective.