This Month in Mongolian Studies – March 2011

This is a monthly listing of selected scholarly 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

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ACMS Activities and Events

New ACMS Mongolian Visiting Scholar Program in 2011

The new ACMS Visiting Scholar Program provides funding support for 3-12 week short-term visits by Mongolian scholars to US universities and academic research centers to work with US based counterparts on collaborative projects and public outreach activities. The Program is supported by the US State Department Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau (ECA), and is intended to build ties between Mongolian and US scholars and to increase understanding about Mongolia in the United States. Project proposals in all academic fields are eligible. Applications for the program must be submitted by a US host institution representative on behalf of an invited Mongolian scholar. Visits to the US must begin between September 1 and December 31, 2011 and up to four awards will be made. This program is intended to fund non-degree, scholarly exchange activities. Applications are due by April 1, 2011 and must be submitted by individuals affiliated with US universities or academic research institutes authorized to sponsor Exchange Visitors on J-1 visas. Visit www.mongoliacenter.org/exchange Contact: info@mongoliacenter.org

Mongolian Cultural Heritage Panel

April 27th, 2011, 9am-NOON, Phoenix Park Hotel, Washington, DC
The ACMS, in cooperation with the North America Mongolia Business Council (NAMBC), will organize a panel titled “Common Ground: The Intersection of Mining and Cultural Heritage in Mongolia” at the NAMBC annual meeting at the Phoenix Park Hotel on Capitol Hill. The activities of these two sectors intersect in several ways and the aim of the panel is to illustrate how these intersections can influence and affect Mongolia’s policies and decision-making. The panel will feature experts in the field and their perspectives about Mongolia’s future. Guest speakers include Uranchimeg Tsultem, Ph.D., Lecturer, UC-Berkeley and Adviser to the Mongolian President for Cultural Heritage issues, Jeffrey Altschul, Ph.D., President, SRI Foundation, William Fitzhugh, Ph.D., Director, ArcticStudies Center, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution, and Paula DePriest, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Conservation Institute, Smithsonian Institution.

ACMS Annual Board Meeting

April 28th, 2011, 12:30pm-3:30pm, Washington, DC
The ACMS will hold its annual board meeting at the Phoenix Park Hotel on Capitol Hill. Institutional representatives and "At-Large" members are encouraged to attend. In order to facilitate greater participation from members unable to travel to Washington, DC, the ACMS tentatively plans to hold a webinar in conjunction with the meeting. More information will be sent in the coming weeks concerning the agenda and how to participate in the webinar in the coming weeks.

ACMS Annual Membership Meeting

April 28th, 2011, 5pm-7:30pm, Washington, DC
The ACMS will hold its annual membership meeting in the top floor conference room of the Rome Building at the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS) from 5-7:30pm. The meeting will include
an overview of the ACMS's activities over the year, a keynote lecture, and reception with a cultural program. Dr. Uranchimeg Tsultem, Lecturer, UC-Berkeley and Adviser to the Mongolian President for Cultural Heritage issues, will give the keynote address on preserving Mongolian cultural heritage. This event is free and open to all ACMS members and the general public. Contact: info@mongoliacenter.org

Third Annual ACMS Research Conference Sponsored by the Henry Luce Foundation
May 25 – 27, 2011, Mongolian State University of Agriculture, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
“The Case for Complexity: Accounting for Diversity in Mongolian History, Culture and Ecology” is the title of this international research conference. Keynote speakers David Sneath, Ph.D., Cambridge University and Susan Crate, Ph.D., George Mason University will be joined by scholars from the Mongolian National Academy of Sciences and the National University of Mongolia, ACMS Research Fellows, and invited scholars from France, Germany and the US currently conducting research in the region to discuss their research on the topics of historical and other categorizations of people, geography, environment, adaptation and resilience. The closing reception will be hosted by the US Ambassador to Mongolia at his Residence. The Conference is free and open to the public but advanced registration will be required. Contact: Robin Charpentier, ACMS Resident Director, rcharpentier@mongoliacenter.org

New Acquisitions at the ACMS Library
Each month a list of materials acquired and added to the collection is published on the ACMS library website. Here are some highlights:
“Daichin gurnii dotood yamny Mongol bichigiin geriin dans” (Office of Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs and Court of Colonial Affairs), MUIS-Ekh bichig Altai sudalyn tenkhim Ulaanbaatar; First 11 volumes, 2010
“Tengeriin ikh yuani ulsyn tuukhen temdeglel” (Historical Notes on Great Yuan Dynasty), A. Punsag, Ulaanbaatar, 2010;
“Shinjlekh ukhaany akademiin tuukhiin khurelengiin tuukhen barimtyn burtgel,” vol.1 (Historical Records from the History Institute of the Academy of Sciences of Mongolia), S. Chuluun, Ulaanbaatar, 2010
"Daichin gurenii ekhen ueiin Gadaad Mongolyn turiig zasakh yavdalyn yamny manj mongol ailtgalyn devteruud" (Qing chao qian qi li fan yuan Man Meng wen ti ben Huhehaote Shi : Nei Menggu ren min chu ban she), Manchu Memorials from the Early Qing Board of Colonial Affairs, 24 volumes, 2010
"Menggu mi shi ji Menggu wen xian yan jiu" (Mongolian Secret History and Studies on its Mongolian Source), Choimaa Sharav, Uvur mongolyn ardyn hevlelyn khoroo, 2007

Call for Papers, Conferences and Workshops
Call for papers: Mountain Research and Development (MRD) Journal, in collaboration with University of Central Asia's Mountain Societies Research Centre, is seeking articles that contribute to an understanding of systems and practices most relevant to Central Asian mountain societies in transition. Mountain societies in Central Asia have experienced systemic economic, political and environmental changes and have demonstrated varying degrees of resilience and capacities to transition. Because of these changes, Central Asian mountain societies — including the Altai, Tien Shan, Altai, Pamir, Hindu Kush, Karakorum, and western Himalayas — face unique development challenges as well as unique opportunities. Deadline: March 31, 2011. Contact: http://www.mrd-journal.org/ Visit: http://www.mrd-journal.org/

Call for Papers: April 9, 2011, New York, U.S. “Places and Perceptions: Space and Identity in Inner Eurasia." The Organization for the Advancement of Studies of Inner Eurasian Societies at Columbia University, New York University, and Yale University are pleased to announce the Fourth Annual OASIES Student Conference. The conference seeks to bring together scholars from a variety of disciplines who are interested in the perception of place in different epochs of Eurasian history and culture. It seeks to examine the meanings that have been attached to spaces across the Eurasian steppe and neighboring regions from a wide range of methodological perspectives and to investigate the uses of spatial theory in the contemporary study of Inner Eurasia. The organizers particularly encourage submissions from graduate students who work in Central Asian, Mongolian, Russian, Middle Eastern, Chinese or South Asian fields. Submission deadline: March 1,
Contact: oasiesconference2011@gmail.com Visit: http://www.oasies.org/conferences/index.html

Call for Papers: May 7, 2011, University of Washington, Seattle, U.S. The 23rd Annual Nicholas Poppe Symposium on Central/Inner Asian Studies “Central Asia and Mongolia: Twenty Years of Independence.” Organized by the University of Washington, Association of Central Asian Students, the conference invites papers on developments in language, literature, art, traditions and culture, education, health, environment and other vital issues. Abstract submission deadline: April 8, 2011. Contact: icirt@u.washington.edu

Call for papers: May 24-26, 2012, Kiev, Ukraine. Fifth International Conference “Tsyrendorzhiyev Readings – 2012, Tibetan Civilization and Nomadic Peoples of Eurasia: Cross-Cultural Contacts.” The conference is held in memory of Rabdan Tsyrendorzhiyev, the founder of the Buryat Culture Society in Ukraine and will cover the following topics: the history of contact of the peoples of Siberia and Central Asia with the Ukrainians and Ukraine; the history and current situation of the diasporas of the peoples of Central Asia; sacral geography, pilgrimages of the peoples of Central Asia; Buddhism, Shamanism, the Bon religion; the perception and history of the study of Buddhism in the world. Conference application deadline: June 30, 2011. Contact: tsyren2012@ukr.net;

Call for Projects: The Rolex Awards for Enterprise recognize pioneers whose work contributes broadly to the betterment of humankind and the natural environment. Rolex provides selected individuals with US$100,000 toward their projects, a Rolex chronometer, and international publicity. Rolex has launched its latest edition of the awards with a worldwide call for entries. Prospective entrants can apply to the 2012 Rolex Awards through the website. Pre-application deadline: May 31, 2011. Visit: http://www.iucnredlist.org/news/rolex-awards-for-enterprise

Call for papers: September 20-22, 2011, University of Cambridge, UK “12th Biennial Conference of the European Society for Central Asia Studies.” ESCAS welcomes proposals relating to all aspects of research in the arts, humanities and social sciences on Central Asia, including Mongolia. The Conference will be hosted by the Cambridge Central & Inner Asian Forum (http://www.cambridge-centralasia.org/) Deadline: March 15th, 2011. Visit: http://www.escas.org/

International Conference: March 11-12, 2011, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL. The Annual Soyuz Symposium “The Research Network for Postsocialist Cultural Studies.” Keynote speakers at the conference will be: Katherine Verdery (CUNY) and Michael Burawoy (UC Berkeley). Program: http://www.reeec.illinois.edu/events/conferences/SOYUZ.html Contact: gille@illinois.edu

International Symposium: June 13-18, 2011, Kyrgyzstan. The international Symposium ‘Pastoralism in Central Asia: Status, Challenges and Opportunities in Mountain Areas’ will provide a forum for scientists, development practitioners, policy makers, and herders to present and discuss current conditions, relevant opportunities, and innovative approaches and tools to support modern pastoralism in the region. The event is expected to address different categories of pastoralism for herders and rural inhabitants, scientists and academicians; policy makers and representatives from different levels of government administration (e.g. civil servants); development practitioners; representatives of local and international non governmental organizations; and media representatives. Visit: http://www.nccr-central-asia.org/UCA-NCCR-PastoralismSymposium.pdf

International Conference: July 4-7, 2011, Ulaan-Ude, Russia. Second International Conference on “Biodiversity of Northern Asia.” The Russian Institute of General and Experimental Biology and the Mongolian Institute of Botany, Geography and Biology of the Academy of Sciences are organizing this conference. There will be panels focusing on diversity of soil, biota of terrestrial ecosystems, biota of freshwater ecosystems, and natural resources and their use. The conference will be followed by meetings and roundtable discussions on molecular genetics methods in population biology; systematics and taxonomy: potentials and limitations; ecologically equivalent and alien aquatic species in freshwater ecosystems; the reaction of the biota on global climate change. Working languages of the conference are Russian and English. Proposal deadline: March 20, 2011. Visit: http://savesteppe.org/ru/archives/810

Symposium: August 10, 2011, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. “Antoine Mostaert and Mongolia Studies.” Mongolian academics will commemorate the 130th anniversary of the birth date of Antoine Mostaert. Contact: jamescicm@yahoo.com

International Conference: September 29-October 1, 2011, Moscow, Russia. "Twenty Years after 1991: The Reshaping of Space and Identity". The Moscow ASN 2011 Conference invites proposals from scholars and doctoral students. Applicants currently residing in Central Europe, the Balkans, Russia, Ukraine, Central Asia/Eurasia, the Caucasus and China are eligible to apply for a number of travel and accommodation grants. Proposal deadline: March 2, 2011. Visit: http://wwwcentre-fr.net/

Workshop: March 21-28, 2011, Sydney, Adelaide, Melbourne, Australia. “The Uyghur Issue in the Context of China’s Democratization Process.” The general aim of the workshop is to provide the Uyghur community with the knowledge and experience necessary not only to raise awareness of the Uyghur issue in the Western world, but also to build capacity in the field of human rights and democratization efforts. The main purpose of the 2011 workshop is to raise awareness of the deteriorating human rights situation of the Uyghur people since the July 5th Massacre in 2009 within the larger Australian society and government. The workshop will be a week-long event in three major cities in Australia. Visit: http://www.uyghurcongress.org/en

Workshop: April 7-8, 2011, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, “Administrative and Colonial Practices in Qing-Ruled China: Lifanyuan and Libu Revisited.” With the Lifanyuan, founded early in the Qing period, and the much older Libu, China developed two central institutions, the successors of which are today’s State Ethnic Affairs Commission in the PRC and the Mongolian & Tibetan Affairs Commission in Taiwan. Epochal breaks, as experienced by both the Chinese and Russian empires, clearly reveal the resources that multi-national countries have at their disposal to deal with imperial crises. The workshop intends to connect perspectives on the southern and southeastern fringe of the Ming colonial empire with the Qing-acquired northern and western frontier. The aim is to better understand Han-Chinese perceptions of the self and the “other,” the continuities of colonial management and “othering.” Visit: http://www.eth.mpg.de/cms/en/events/index.html_479029509.html

Workshop: June 6-7, 2011, Mongolia Japan Centre for Human Development, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. “Mongolian Hidden Landscape Under the Blue Sky: From the Hidden Land to the High Sky.” The first international workshop on Mongolian landscape archaeology and astronomy is being organized as part of the activities of the Erasmus Mundi ‘Bridging the Gap’ program. This project examines how technological and humanities studies can be used to explore the Mongolian landscape. The potentiality of the Mongolian cultural landscape is enormous; however, even though the land is its greatest resource, this resource is now in danger from local development and human global involvement. The local human element and use of Mongolia’s natural resources is necessary for its progress; however, this progress must be in step with local cultural heritage documentation. Remote sensing technology and GIS are scientific tools to help discover, manage and disseminate landscape archaeological heritage data, in order for Mongolians to preserve and to know their own natural and human history. Visit: http://bridging-the-gap.eu/en/Activities/Mongolia/

Summer School for Young Mongolists: June 23-July 14, 2011, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia is pleased to announce the 2011 Summer School for Young Mongolists, co-organized by the National Association for Mongol Studies and universities of Mongolia. Almost 195 students from 14 countries have participated in 7 previous courses since 2003. This summer course features programs in exploring Mongolian statehood establishment, statehood history and traditions as well as “Hunnu” studies. The main event of the course will be an academic conference for the young Mongolists, where they will present their research. All travel expenses will be borne by the participants and the government of Mongolia will be responsible for accommodations and other expenses in Mongolia. Application deadline: May 1, 2011. Contact: saruulerdene@yahoo.com

Summer School: July 4-15, 2011, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, "History, Identity and Religion in Contemporary Central Eurasia.” Organized within the framework of the cross-faculty Asian Dynamics Initiative at the University of Copenhagen, this summer school is designed as an interdisciplinary event to provide students unfamiliar with the region with introductory courses into the societies, politics and cultures of contemporary Central Eurasia. It will also offer students who already have some knowledge of the region a deeper insight into ongoing academic research and discussions of the post-Soviet independent states, Afghanistan, Mongolia and Xinjiang. Tuition is free and a small travel grant is available. Deadline: March 20, 2011. Visit: http://asiandynamics.ku.dk/english/news/dokument3/ Contact: ildiko@hum.ku.dk
Summer Field School in Anthropology and Archaeology: July 9-August 5, 2011, Mongolia. National University of Mongolia hosts summer field School in Anthropology and Archaeology to provide international students with an opportunity to work together for new experience, knowledge, and insights. It aims to broaden your understanding of traditional culture of Mongolian nomads through the study of history and culture of Mongols and archaeological excavation of pre-historical and historical sites in Central Mongolia and will provide an opportunity to participate in every aspect of Mongolian culture. Contact: anthro_archaeo@num.edu.mn Visit: http://www.num.edu.mn/Default.aspx?tabid=537

July 10-15, 2011, University of Indiana-Bloomington. The 50th Annual Meeting of the Mongolia Society. This special meeting will be held in conjunction with the Permanent International Altaistic Conference (PIAC) on the Indiana University campus, in Bloomington, Indiana. The Mongolia Society Annual Meeting will open on Sunday, July 10, 2011, and there will be a celebratory dinner together with the PIAC on Sunday evening. This will be followed by panels and activities Sunday through Wednesday, with a trip option on Thursday. Attendance at The Mongolia Society annual meeting is free and open to the public. Visit: http://www.mongoliasociety.org/?q=section/2010090135.htm

Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

Mongolian Young Scholars Program
The Mongolian Young Scholars Program will unite 20 Mongolian high school students (10th grade graduates) for a seven day intensive academic experience in June 2011. The program will be taught in English by undergraduates from Harvard and Stanford Universities. The undergraduate instructors, recruited through a competitive application process, will teach seminars in the liberal arts, English language composition, and college preparation. These college-level seminars will prepare students for rigorous academic environments. Application deadline: March 31, 2011. Visit: http://ysp.mn/

2012-2013 Fulbright Student Fellowship
The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy to Mongolia is now accepting applications for the 2012-2013 Fulbright Student Fellowship Program. Fulbright Student Fellowships are part of a U.S. Government-funded academic exchange program, and fund graduate-level (M.A., M.S) studies at U.S. universities. Fulbright Student Fellows are selected by the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy. Deadline: April 11, 2011. Visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/fulbright_2012-2013.html

Hungarian State Scholarships for Foreign Students
This scholarship is for undergraduate and graduate students, especially those majoring in Hungarian Language and Literature, as well as graduating students working on their theses, and students enrolled in "single track" university programs (such as General Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacology, Veterinary Studies, Architecture and Jurisprudence). Before application, students are required to have completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions. Citizens of Mongolia are encouraged to apply. Application deadline: April 15, 2011. Visit: http://www.scholarship.hu/

2012-2013 Hubert Humphrey Fellowship
This is a one-year, non-degree professional exchange program. It provides approximately a year of study and related professional experience in the U.S. to mid-career professionals working in the following public service fields, in either the public or private sector: agricultural Development/Agricultural Economics, communications/Journalism, Substance Abuse Education, Treatment and Prevention, Economic Development, Finance and Banking, Educational Administration, Planning and Policy, Higher Education Administration, HIV/AIDS Policy and Prevention, Natural Resource and Environmental Policy and Climate Change, Human Resources Management, Public Health Policy and Management, Public Policy Analysis and Public Administration, Teaching of English as a Foreign Language, Technology Policy and Management, Trafficking of Persons, Policy and Prevention, Urban and Regional Planning, Law and Human Rights. Application deadline: April 15, 2011. Visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/scholarship_announcements/umphrey2012.html

Regional Seminar for Excellence in Teaching
ReSET projects bring together groups of junior university faculty from the region (participants) and international teams of resource faculty who currently teach at undergraduate degree programs in the humanities and social science. Resource faculties are recruited for their qualities as “master teachers,” expertise on the subject and involvement in international scholarship. This program is now open for applications from junior university faculty in Southeastern Europe, NIS and Mongolia who teach in the relevant thematic areas in the humanities and social sciences.

Contact: enaumkina@osieurope.org Visit: http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/reset/grants/reset_seminar

Resources

Mapping Buddhist Monasteries 200-1200 CE Project
The Project aims to catalogue, georeference and provide online maps of details of communication, contacts and affinities between Buddhist monasteries and convents known to have operated in South Asia, SE Asia, Central Asia, and East Asia from approx. 200 CE to approximately 1200 CE. Visit: http://monastic-asia.wikidot.com/

Five Books From Mongolia
The journal Assembly recently published short review on five contemporary novels from Mongolia. The review discusses such classics of Mongolian contemporary literature as “Clear Waters of Tamir” by Ch. Lodoidamba as well as the latest novels by G. Ayurzana, including “The Legend of a Shaman.” Assembly is a cultural journal featuring a mix of short stories, narrative nonfiction, essays, interviews, and poetry, exploring a wide array of subjects in the social, political and cultural realms. Visit:http://www.assemblyjournal.com/2011/02/five-books-from-mongolia/

The Journal of Northern Cultures Studies
The Institute of Northern Cultures at Dankook University in Korea recently published the first issue of The Journal of Northern Cultures Studies, Vol. 1, No. 1 (January 2010). This issue includes papers on Kitan language, society, Liao-Sung relations, Bronze Age archaeology of Eastern Mongolia, Kitan ruins in Mongolia, origins of the Kitans, and the Liao Shih. Papers are in Korean, Japanese, Chinese, and Mongolian. For more information on the institute or guidelines for submitting contributions to the journal, contact Prof. Lee Seong-Gyu, Director of the Institute of Northern Cultures and professor of Mongolian Studies at Dankook, at: sglee@dankook.ac.kr or visit the institute’s website at www.inckorea.or.kr.

US Embassy in Mongolia's 2011 Mongolia Investment Climate Statement Available
As the 18-chapter analysis suggests, the investment picture for Mongolia going forward presents a mix of both opportunities and challenges; this perspective is also reflected in the narrative that follows, which highlights both the increasing commercial opportunities in Mongolia as well as continued concern about some aspects of the legal, administrative and business environment. Visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/

News and Events

March Biobeers
March 3, 2011, 6PM. P. Gankhuyag from the Wildlife Science and Conservation Center of Mongolia will give a talk entitled "Artificial Nests - Conservation and Sustainable use of Saker Falcons in Mongolia." A. Bayarjargal from the Snow Leopard Conservation Fund will give a talk entitled "Snow Leopard: Livestock Loss and Compensation." Biobeers is held on the first Thursday of every month 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@yahoogroups.co.uk

February 17-April 10, 2011, Singapore - Genghis Khaan Exhibition
The largest collection of Genghis Khan artifacts ever assembled is making an exclusive Asian appearance in Singapore at the new ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands. The Exhibition will take visitors on a journey
back to 13th century Mongolia where they will experience stunning re-creations of Mongolia’s grasslands and battlegrounds, and walk among the archaeological artifacts and weaponry of the Mongol Empire. Boasting over 200 rare authentic treasures from the conqueror’s reign, this is the first time that this extensive exhibition will be on show in Asia and its ArtScience Museum stopover is currently the only Asian venue planned.


Former Mongolian Academy of Management Renamed into Academy of Governance

Although it still retains its name in Mongolian “Удирдлагын Академи(Udirdlagyn Akadem), according to the Board of Directors’ decision the Academy was renamed as the Academy of Governance to reflect its institutional role in public service, governance and management. The name change took place in January, 2011.

Mongolian Schools to Get Software in Mongolian Script

Software in the Mongolian script for use in all secondary schools in the nation was celebrated last week at a ceremony in the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. President Elbegdorj issued a decree some time ago to popularize and expedite use of the Classical Mongolian Script. Most Mongolians today cannot read Classical Mongolian Script and the decree is aimed at accessing past documents. Source: http://mongolia-web.com/business/2988-schools-to-get-software-in-mongolian-script

March 3-May 1, Arlington, VA Exhibition - Hamtdaa: Together

Artisphere presents Hamtdaa: Together, a multi-disciplinary celebration of Mongolian traditional and contemporary art and culture in Arlington, Virginia’s Mongolian-American community. The Hamtdaa: Together Exhibition features the work of visual artist and Arlingtonian Gankhuyag Natsag, whose Khuree Tsam dance masks, ceremonial costumes and paintings speak to Mongolia’s ancient traditions and contemporary experiences. Accompanied by a multi-faceted program of performances, workshops, films and community celebrations, this exhibition is made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The opening night will be accompanied by a public reception from 6-9PM.

Mongolia Young Leaders Program in Europe-May 6-7, 2011, Istanbul, Turkey.

Mongolian Young Leaders Program expanded into Europe in 2010 to include Mongolian students who are enrolled at top European universities. During last year’s conference, twenty outstanding fellows from leading European universities were chosen and given the opportunity to visit Milan, the financial and fashion capital of Italy, and participate in youth conference hosted by the Italian-Mongolian Business Council. The initiative has received support of the President of Mongolia Tsakhia Elbegdorj. Source: http://www.monamescience.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53%3A mongolia-young-leaders-program-in-europe-istanbul-2011&catid=1%3Anews&Itemid=19

Queen Dondogdulam Exhibition Opened in UB

The Bogd Khan Palace Museum will mount a series of exhibitions to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Independence Revolution. As part of the event, an exhibit entitled “Mongolian Queen- Mother” opened on February 27. Numerous items that were used by Queen Dondogdulam, including jewelry and the clothes she wore on ceremonial occasions, are displayed for the exhibition. Dondogdulam was born in 1874 in the family of Tsend from Setsen Khan province. She studied Mongolian and Tibetan and took part in affairs of state when the Bogd Khan was both the religious and temporal Head of State. She was married to the Bogd Khan for 21 years and died in 1923 at the age of 49. Source: http://ubpost.mongolnews.mn/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5834&Itemid=43

New Center for Studies Related to Kazakh Mongols Opened in Ulaanbaatar

Altan-Argamag, a non-governmental organization for the study and promotion of Kazakh culture in Mongolia was established in January, 2011. The mission of the organization is to support and organize scholarship, lectures, seminars and projects on Kazakh studies as well as to improve Mongolian language skills of Kazakh youth, to develop their scholarship and talent. Contact: altaabol@yahoo.com

Kharkorum Museum Soon to Open in Orkhon River Valley
The Kharkorum museum will soon open in order to display, study and safeguard rare and unique historic and cultural exhibits. The museum was built by the Mongolian and Japanese governments with a grant-in-aid from Japan. More than 30 monuments, stone statues and pieces of monuments related to Orhon valley finds, and discoveries revealing economic life in the city of Kharkorum were brought to the museum. Displayed in the museum are such rare exhibits as Amitaba Buddha dating to the 13th century, the Sharbud stone statue belonging to the Turkic period, the foundation stone of Kharbalgas column of Uighur rule, the stove to burn earthenware articles of the Kitan dynasty, and coins of Guyug and Munkh Khan. Source: http://www.mongolia-web.com/messenger/

Recent Publications


“Клановость в политике регионов России: Тувинские правители”(Clanship Politics in Russian Regions: Tuva's Leaders), Ch. K. Lamajaa, 2010, Apeteya. This monograph presents a study of clanship prevalent in regions of Russia, particularly Tuva. The book examines the aspects of “clan” in different fields of study including the socio-political context. It provides special characteristics of modern clanship-based power structures.

“The Wobbling Pivot, China since 1800: An Interpretive History,” Pamela Kyle Crossley, 2010, Wiley-Blackwell. This comprehensive narrative of China since the eighteenth century builds its story around the delicate relationship between central government and local communities. It provides an original interpretation, arguing that developments can be explained through an understanding of China’s surprising swings between centralization and decentralization, between local initiative and central authoritarianism. The book offers an analysis from the Qing period into the twentieth century.

“Landscape and Culture in Northern Eurasia,” Peter Jordan, 2010, Left Coast Press. This volume integrates the study of northern Eurasian hunting and herding societies by encouraging increased international collaboration between archaeologists, ethnographers and historians to open new directions for archaeological investigation of spirituality and northern landscape traditions. Authors examine the life-ways and beliefs of the indigenous peoples of northern Eurasia; chapters contribute ethnographic, ethno-historic and archaeological case-studies stretching from Fennoscandia, through Siberia, and into Chukotka and the Russian Far East.

“The History of the Urbanisation of a Siberian City: Ulan Ude,” Balzhan Zhimbiev, 2011, Brill. Originally a Russian fort, later a trading town, Ulan-Ude subsequently became a typical Soviet provincial city. Zhimbiev explains the differences between Tsarist and Soviet planning practices and how the trading town was transformed into a city when the power of the city authorities was superseded in the 1930s by that of centralised state industrial enterprises.

“Russia in Asia: a Record and Study, 1558-1899,” Alexis Krausse, 2011, Brill. Traces the successive stages of the growth of Asiatic Russia, and describes the policies which have brought it about. More than two hundred authorities were consulted, including Russian primary sources and British official documents.

“The Comintern and Revolution in Mongolia,” Irina Y. Morozova, 2011, Brill. Using previously inaccessible material from the Comintern archives, the author addresses the issues of current concern in the rewriting of the twentieth-century history of Mongolia. It provides new interpretations of the activity of the Comintern in Central Asia and of the politics of Soviet Russia towards the East.

“Culture and Environment in Inner Asia: 1: The Pastoral Economy and the Environment,” edited by Caroline Humphrey and David Sneath, 2011, Brill. This volume explores the question of pastoral economies that have evolved under Russian, Mongolian and Chinese governance, their current trajectories and differing impact on the steppe environment. Contents include the structure and process of land-use in Inner Asia, socio-economic aspects of the pastoral movement of Mongolian herders, Inner Asia grassland degradation and plant transformation, livestock breeding in Mongolia past and present and the division of labour and working conditions of herdsmen in Mongolia.
“Popular Religion and Shamanism,” edited by Ma Xisha and Meng Huiying, 2011, Brill. Part I: Popular Religion discusses the evolution of organized lay movements over ten centuries. Its eight chapters focus on three key points: the arrival and integration of new ideas before the Song dynasty, the coalescence of an intellectual and scriptural tradition during the Ming, and the efflorescence of new organizations during the late Qing. 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. The other essay discusses divination rites in a local culture of southwest China.

“Pastoréalismes: anthropologie historique des processus d’intégration chez les Kirghiz du Tian Shan intérieur,” Svetlana Jacquessson, 2010, Reichert Verlag. The book examines the relations between an economic phenomenon, pastoralism, and a social one, patrilineal descent-reckoning. These relations are described and analyzed on the basis of long-term fieldwork and through investigation of the existing historical and ethnographic sources. By developing a historical anthropological approach, the book offers a new perspective on pastoralism in a region that has remained largely unexplored up to now.

“Ethnicity, Authority, and Power in Central Asia: New Games Great and Small,” edited by Robert L. Canfield, Gabriele Rasuly-Paleczek, 2010, Taylor and Francis. The peoples of Greater Central Asia – not only in Central Asian states of the former Soviet Union but also those who share similar heritages in adjacent countries like Afghanistan and Pakistan, Iran, and the Province of Xinjiang – have been drawn into more direct and immediate contact since the Soviet collapse. Infrastructural improvements, and the race by the great powers for access to the region’s vital natural resources have allowed these peoples to develop closer ties with each other and the wider world, creating new interdependencies, and fresh opportunities for interaction and the exercise of influence. Responding to a need for in-depth studies concerning the social structures and practices in the region, the book examines trends and issues from the point of view of scholars who have lived and worked "on the ground" and have sought to understand the conditions and concerns of people in rural as well as urban settings.

“Tribes of Central Asia: From the Black Mountain to Waziristan,” H.C. Wylly, 2011, Global Oriental. While serving in the British Army in the North-West frontier region in the 1890s, Colonel Wylly found that there was no reliable, up to date information on the tribes or on the terrain. His work, first published in 1912, remains valuable for the detailed descriptions of tribes and their way of life, as well as for the regional background and information on the campaigns waged by the British in an attempt at subjugation.

“A Grammar of Manchu,” Ivan Zakharov, introduction by Alexander Vovin, 2010, Global Oriental. This reprint of Zakharov’s grammar "Grammatika man’chzhurskogo iazyka" (A Grammar of the Manchu Language, 1879) by Ivan Il’ich Zakharov, remains an important contribution to the study of the language. Unfortunately, in contrast to another major contribution by Zakharov, Polnyi man’chzhursko-russki slovar’ (A Complete Manchu-Russian Dictionary, 1875), his Manchu Grammar was never reprinted and remains a bibliographical rarity. At the time Zakharov wrote his grammar, Manchu was still in use to a limited extent.

“Птицы юга России (Birds of Southern Russia)”, А. Д. Липкович, 2011, Yuzhnii Izdatel’skii Dom. Particular attention is given to the birds of the steppes of the Rostov Region and Kalmykia. It summarizes the environmental specifications and has pictures of 200 bird species, including the steppe eagle and steppe tirkushku.

“Методические рекомендации по организации оптимального использования пастбищ в Алтае-Саянском экорегионе: на примере Каракольской долины в Республике Алтай (Methodical Recommendations on the Organization of Optimal use of Pastures in the Altai-Sayan/Karakol Valley in the Altai Republic) Yu. V. Robertus, L.V. Bailagasov, Z. B. Tolbina, R. V. Lyubimov, T.V. Manysheva, D.K. Aildashev, D. E. Mamyev, 2010, Altaiiskii Regionalnii Institut Ekologii. In this mountainous area, differences in elevation and complex terrain determine the shift of several altitudinal belts - from the mountain tundra and woodland to the dry steppes in the southern black and chestnut soils. Steppe communities are in mass violation of overgrazing and livestock numbers exceeded sustainable levels in 1991. Hence there is a need for streamlining and regulating the use of pastures, particularly in the context of the need to provide non-destructive land use within the Natural Park of Uch-Enmek.