This Month in Mongolian Studies – March 2012

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

ACMS 10th Annual Meeting-Toronto: The ACMS will celebrate its 10th anniversary annual meeting with a reception, cultural program, poster presentation and annual business meeting held in the Grand Ballroom West of the Sheraton Centre Hotel from 7:00-10:00pm on Friday March 16, 2012. The meeting is held in conjunction with the Association of Asian Studies (AAS) annual conference. The ACMS reception and cultural program are free and open to all interested parties. The cultural program will include Mongolian music and food, and is being organized in conjunction with the Toronto area Mongolian community, and the Mongolia Cultural Center (MCC) in Washington, DC. A poster display highlighting academic research and cultural topics related to Mongolia will be held during the reception. To propose a poster or display for the session, please send a brief abstract or description (no more than 250 words) to Baigalmaa at baigalmaa@mongoliacenter.org before March 1, 2012. Posters and displays will be accepted on a rolling basis. For details visit: www.mongoliacenter.org.

ACMS Intensive Mongolian Language Program: The ACMS invites students and scholars to enroll in an eight week Intensive Mongolian Language Program from June 11 to August 10, 2012 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The purpose of this summer language program is to provide Intermediate-level students of the Mongolian language with an opportunity to enhance their communicative competence through systematic improvement of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills, in an authentic environment. Classroom and supervised outside-the-classroom activities will help students achieve more fluent, accurate and multi-functional communication. The program entails 8 weeks of intensive study of the Mongolian language, over a 9-week period, at the Intermediate level of language learning which is equivalent to approximately 9 semester credit hours. For more information see: www.mongoliacenter.org/language.
New Books in the ACMS Library


Call for Papers, Conferences, Workshops, and other Academic Programs

Call for Papers: Annual International Mongolian Studies Conference. “Chinggis Khaan – 850 Year Legacy.” Co-hosted by The Mongolian Cultural Center and The Embassy of Mongolia. May 4-5, 2012. Commemorating the 850th anniversary of the birth of this remarkable historical figure, the Mongolian Cultural Center will dedicate its annual Mongolian Studies International Conference to the life and legacy of Chinggis Khaan. Continuing the long-standing tradition of collaborating with the Mongolian Cultural Center, the Embassy of Mongolia to the United States will once again co-host the conference for this year. An addition to the co-organizers will be the Mongolian Institute for Defense Studies, National Defense University of Mongolia. Participants, both Mongolian and international scholars, are asked to submit research papers on a host of topics related to the general theme of the conference. Topics may include, but are not exclusively limited to, biographical studies of Chinggis Khaan and the House of Chinggisides, Mongolian military history, especially the history of the Mongolian art of war, the Mongolian Empire’s political, economic and cultural legacy on the modern world, linguistic and textologic studies of the sources of 13-14th century Mongolian history and the evolution of modern assessment of the

Call for Applications: **NEH Summer Institute for Middle and High School Teachers on the theme Central Asia in World History** at Ohio State University, from July 15-27, 2012. Central Asia in World History will engage teachers in a deeper understanding of how Central Asia has historically functioned as a crossroads of intercultural exchange, connecting the great civilizations on the Eurasian periphery, giving rise to world empires of its own in antiquity and the medieval era, and serving as the playing ground for the Anglo-Russian "Great Game" in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This will be done through expert presentations, analysis of primary material, both narrative and documentary, screenings and discussion of relevant films, immersion in traditional food and music of the region, and the development of unit plans for classroom use. An advisory panel will select twenty-five teachers from various disciplines to participate in the Institute. Primarily, we will seek out teachers in the fields of world history, the social sciences, geography, and Asian Studies. We will also consider full-time graduate students pursuing a K-12 teaching career for participation. NEH Summer Scholars receive a stipend of $2,100 to help cover travel expenses and the cost of housing. Additional information, including a list of participating faculty, the Institute schedule and instructions on how to apply, can be found at: [http://hti.osu.edu/centralasia](http://hti.osu.edu/centralasia). Deadline: March 15, 2011.

Call for Applications: The **Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute**, June 18 – August 10, 2012 at University of Wisconsin, Madison. The Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia (CREECA) and the Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are proud to announce the second annual Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute, CESSI. In summer 2012, CESSI will offer intensive courses in beginning and intermediate Kazakh, Tajik, Uyghur, and Uzbek. With sufficient enrollment, other Central Eurasian Turkic languages could also be offered. Please contact the CESSI program coordinator if you are interested in a language not listed above. Scheduling of all courses is contingent upon enrollment. Please apply to CESSI as early as possible to help ensure that your class will be
offered. CESSI 2012 will also feature lectures (in English) on Central Eurasian history and culture and a rich program of cultural events and field trips related to the countries of Central Eurasia. Visit: www.creeca.wisc.edu/cessi Deadline for admission and the fee remission grant: April 16, 2012. Deadline for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships at UW-Madison is February 15, 2012.

Call for Proposals: **2012 North American Graduate Student Conference in Buddhist Studies: Buddhist Traditions: New Directions**, at the University of Virginia, September 14-16, 2012. In addition to approximately 15 paper presentations, for which this announcement serves as a call for proposals, we will also host two special events — an introduction to UVa Buddhist Studies faculty initiatives in the digital humanities and a workshop on teaching Buddhism to undergraduates. UVa’s more than thirty graduate students in Buddhist Studies look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be an enriching collaborative experience. Papers will be organized into panels, each chaired by a faculty respondent. Presentations will not exceed twenty minutes. Please submit your proposal of 500 words, along with your name, university and department affiliation, and a brief bio, touyabuddhiststudies@virginia.edu by April 1, 2012. You will be notified in May of the status of your proposal, after which we will publish a detailed schedule of the conference. University of Virginia entities have allocated generous funding to cover the costs of all lodging and meals for students presenting papers. Travel funds, however, should be obtained from the students’ home institutions or other sources. We also invite non-presenting students to attend at their own cost. Graduate students Manuel Lopez (mal5f@virginia.edu), Matt Zito (mjz3pm@virginia.edu), and Christie Kilby Robinson (cak9pn@virginia.edu) are the conference organizers whom you may also contact with questions. Visit: http://pages.shanti.virginia.edu/Buddhist_Studies_Gr/announcement

Call for Papers: **New York Conference on Asian Studies: Contesting Tradition**, at State University of New York at New Paltz, September 28-29, 2012. The NYCAS 2012 program committee invites proposals for panels, roundtables, and individual papers on all aspects of Asian and Asian-American history, culture, and contemporary life, representing disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and professional schools. Interdisciplinary proposals are also welcome. Please see the website for suggested topics and more detailed information on individual, panel and roundtable structure. The deadline for submitting proposals is May 15, 2012. Visit: http://www.newpaltz.edu/asianstudies/nycas/ (check for updates) Contact: co-chairs David Elstein and Akira Shimada: nycas2012@gmail.com

Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

Fellowship: **The East-West Center** is now accepting applications from scholars and analysts who wish to undertake policy-relevant research and writing in Washington, D.C. **The Asia Studies Fellowship** supports scholars and analysts who wish to undertake policy-relevant research and writing in one of the following areas: 1) international relations in Asia; 2) political and economic change in Asia; 3) U.S.-Asia relations; and/or 4) ASEAN integration and community-building efforts. The fellowship finances a three-month residence in Washington, D.C., and, optionally and at the Fellowship’s discretion, a small grant to cover field research in Asia prior to the start of the fellowship. Residency may begin as early as May 2012 and extend until January 2013. Fellows will complete articles or a monograph and give a public presentation

PhD Fellowship: **Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, “Friends, Patrons, Clients.”** The practice and semantics of friendship and patronage in comparative historical and anthropological perspective” financed by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft offers 1 position for PhD students (TV-L 13, 60%, approx. EUR 1,200 net), to run from 1st June 2012 initially for 18 months. The position can be extended for further 18 months if sufficient progress has been made in the research. The PhD research group comprises the following disciplines: Ancient History, History (Medieval, Early Modern and Modern including the History of Eastern Europe and Imperial China), philosophy, sociology, political science and social and cultural anthropology. Candidates pursuing a project related to the history of China, South East Asia or the Near East are particularly encouraged to apply. Candidates are expected to have a degree on Masters level, and should have achieved marks above average. Applications should include a CV, academic certificates, a proposal of the PhD thesis, and two references to be sent directly to the chair of the group, Prof. Dr. Ronald G. Asch. Deadline: Applications close 15th March 2012. Visit: [www.grk-freundschaft.uni-freiburg.de](http://www.grk-freundschaft.uni-freiburg.de) Contact: michael.strauss@geschichte.uni-freiburg.de (coordinator) or ronald.g.asch@geschichte.uni-freiburg.de (speaker).

Masters Fellowship: **2013-2014 Fulbright Student Fellowship,** The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy to Mongolia is now accepting applications for the 2013-2014 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. Applicants will be assessed on the contribution that their study would make to greater understanding between the United States and Mongolia, and the likelihood of the applicant performing successfully in a U.S. Academic setting. To qualify, applicants must: Hold a university degree (at least B.A. or equivalent), be fluent in English (IBT score of 80, Institutional TOEFL 550. (If you have not taken the test yet, it is important that you take the test as soon as possible.) Note: Preference will be given to candidates who have not had extensive recent experience in the United States. The Program supports study in most fields of social sciences and humanities, and some fields in science and technology (for a full list visit the website). Interviews will take place late May or early June, 2012. Applicants must be present for the interview. Completed applications must be returned to Public Affairs Section by 12 Noon on April 15, 2012: Entry House, U.S. Embassy, Big Ring Road, XI Microdistrict, Ulaanbaatar. Visit: [http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/fulbright_2013-2014.html](http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/fulbright_2013-2014.html)

Call for Applications: **The Open Society Foundation Global Supplementary Grants.** The Open Society Foundations offer supplementary grants to students from select countries of Southeastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Mongolia, the Middle East, and South Asia. The purpose of the program is to enable qualified students to pursue doctoral studies in the humanities and social sciences at accredited universities in Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America. The application deadline for students pursuing a PhD in Asia, Australia, North America, or the Middle East is April 15, 2012. The application deadline for students pursuing a PhD in Europe is May 21, 2012.
Call for Applications: The Open Society Global Faculty Grants Program. The Open Society Scholarship Programs invite applications for the Global Faculty Grants Program, which offers professional development and research support to faculty in the social sciences and humanities in select countries. Two separate tracks of support are available for eligible scholars: Track I is devoted primarily to developing the teaching and research expertise of younger faculty with an eye towards encouraging improved course content via improved research and pedagogy. These fellowships last up to 10 months, are not renewable, and are tenable at universities arranged by program administrators. Track II is devoted to helping well-established faculty to pursue research leading to publication at universities outside of their home country. These fellowships last up to 5 months, and are renewable once, after residence in the home country for a minimum one (1) year. Deadline: April 15, 2012

Graduate Fellowship: Mongolia Scholarship, University of Westminster. This scholarship, including tuition fee waivers, accommodation, living expenses and flights to and from London, is for Mongolian students who have been accepted for full-time Masters degree studies. Award based on financial need, academic excellence and development potential. Deadline: May 31, 2012. Visit: http://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/prospective-students/student-finance/funding/scholarships/postgraduate/mongolia-scholarship

Position Openings

Assistant Professor, Ball State University, Philosophy and Religious Studies, East Asian Religions. The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies invites applications for a three-year, non-renewable contract faculty position in East Asian Religions, effective August, 17, 2012. 4-4 teaching load, usually two preparations. AOS or AOC: popular religion, performance studies, ethnography, gender studies, religion and social theory, or cultural studies.

Responsibilities: teaching Introduction to Religion in Culture and additional upper level courses, and providing service to the department as needed. Minimum qualifications: earned doctorate in Religious Studies or related field prior to start date; depth and breadth of training in religious studies, including ability to conduct research in appropriate languages (e.g., Chinese, Japanese, etc.). Preferred qualifications: focus in Religion in Culture, especially the modern period; experience in mentoring non-majority students, inclusive pedagogy, and diversity policy issues; some background in, or enthusiasm for, teaching an immersive/experiential courses. The department highly values scholarly teachers, so candidates should be prepared to demonstrate a passion for, and innovation in, the classroom. Contact: Send curriculum vitae, graduate school transcripts, three letters of recommendation, a writing sample, a brief statement of teaching philosophy, and a brief statement of research interests to: Ann Marie Adams, Dept. Administrator, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306, or via email to: philrelst@bsu.edu. Electronic submission is strongly preferred. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Visit: http://www.bsu.edu/religiousstudies Posting Date: 01/12/2012, Closing Date 04/09/2012.

Resources

Mongolia Today: “This blog is an attempt by three avid Mongolia watchers to share their
observations about current developments in Mongolia.” By Julian Dierkes and Dalaibulanii Byambajav, social scientists at the University of British Columbia, this blog mostly follows Mongolian politics and the mining sector. Visit: http://blogs.ubc.ca/mongolia/

News and Events

**Monthly Biobeers Talk:** First Thursday of the month (March 8), 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. Join the Yahoo! Group Mongolbioweb for announcements.

Event: **Mongol Derby – The World’s Longest Horse Race Adventure Extraordinaire 2011 Horse Racer Mrs. Sophia Mangalee.** The Mongolian School of the National Capital Area. March 3, 2012 from 1:30 - 4:00 PM. Join us for a mini-fundraiser for the Mongolian School of the National Capital Area (MSNCA) and The Mongolia Society on Saturday, March 3, 2012 from 1:30-4 pm! Mrs. Sophia Mangalee, Marketing Manager at Monmouth Park Race Track in New Jersey, will talk and show videos of her exciting 1000 km horse race competition last summer during August 6-16th. This famous horse race, reenacting the postal system of Genghis Khan, is called the longest horse race in the world by the Guinness Book of World Records. The race was sponsored by the Adventurists of the United Kingdom, who also hold a well-known London to Mongolia car rally each year. See pictures on Sophia’s website: www.mongolderbyrider.com. Traditional Mongolian food will be served!! The mini-fundraiser is free to Mongolian School students. A tax-deductible donation of $10 is requested from all others. Food and drink will be available for purchase as well as Mongolian children’s books and other items. Please bring your friends. All are welcome. Wilson School Auditorium (MSNCA), 1601 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209 (use Rosslyn or Courthouse Orange Line metro stops).

Workshop: **Strategies of the Intercultural Dialogue in an Interethnic Milieu – The Monguors, their Language and Culture.** The Department of Inner Asian Studies, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary.19–21 March, 2012. The workshop organised by the collective of the Department of Inner Asian Studies and hosted by the head of the Department, Ágnes Birtalan, concerns the language and culture of the Monguors, a Mongolic minority living in North-Western China. Since both their language and culture are related in many aspects to those of the Mongolic, Turkic, Tibetan and Chinese people living in their environment, studying the Monguors is of high priority. From a linguistic aspect, Monguor belongs to the Mongolic languages. Its speakers, however, being isolated from the speakers of the other Mongolic languages for several hundreds of years resulted in a language with remarkable differences if compared to other Mongolic varieties. Their origin has long been a subject of scholarly dispute.
Today, Monguors live in two larger and several smaller communities in North-West China, Qinghai province. During the workshop the emphasis is going to be laid on the Mongor language and its dialects. The topic, however, is concerned in a larger context, and accordingly papers touching upon the folklore, religion, ethnography and sociology of the Monguors will be presented as well by speakers from Finland (Professor Juha Janhunen), the Netherlands (Dr. Hans Nugteren, Poland (Dr. Sławoj Szynkiewicz), the Czech Republic (Ha Minzhong), and Hungary (Dr. Ágnes Birtalan, Mátyás Balogh) and PhD students from Finland and Hungary. For the detailed program contact birtalan@hotmail.com; birtalan.innerasia.hu.

Recent Publications

**Restoring Community Connections to the Land: Building Resilience Through Community-Based Rangeland Management in China and Mongolia.** (CABI) Maria E. Fernandez-Gimenez (Editor), Xiaoyi Wang (Editor), Batkhishig Baival (Editor), Julia A. Klein (Editor), Robin Reid (Editor). February 2012. The rangelands of China and Mongolia encompass diverse landscapes of global environmental and cultural significance. Pastoralists in these two nations share much common history and tradition, including their nomadic heritage and twin eras of collectivized production under different centrally planned socialist regimes. This unique collection of case studies describes the change, loss, re-emergence and resilience of seven herder communities located in distinct socio-ecological settings ranging from the Gobi desert of Mongolia to the Tibetan Plateau regions of China's Sichuan and Gansu Provinces. Useful for policy makers within international development and conservation policy, this book is also of interest for researchers and students of rural economics and agriculture.

“The Comintern and Revolution in Mongolia.” (Brill) Irina V. Morozova. (Forthcoming) Using original research based on 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 (the Third Communist International) in Central Asia and of the politics of Soviet Russia towards the East.

“Institutional Arrangement for Urban Land Market: The Case of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia” (Lambert) Munkhnaran Sugar. December 2011. Mongolia shifted from socialism to market economy in the beginning of the 1990s. Up to that date land could not be privately owned and no land and real estate market had not been known and only has been introduced for the first time after the transition. The study aims to understand current operation and development of land market and its institutions in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Aspects such as types of land rights, land registration, land titling and land valuation etc. are briefly discussed in case study section. In addition, institutional aspects such as the legal frame, procedures, responsibilities, actors are discussed. Then findings of the current land transaction and land market situation in Ulaanbaatar are included. At the end, there are some recommendations for improved land market and its institutional arrangement in Ulaanbaatar.

“Effects of surface gold mining on macroinvertebrate communities: A case study in river systems in the North-East of Mongolia” (Lambert) Saulyegul Avlyush. December 2011. The increase in mining activity has resulted in a long term damage of natural resources in Mongolia.
such as fine sediment inputs to streams as major contributors to the degradation of freshwater habitats. Previous studies conducted in Mongolia have shown changes of functional feeding group structure at mining sites compared with the non-mining sites. However, the fine sediment impact by open placer gold mining on stream communities is not well understood. In particular, it has been not clear which habitats were most sensitive and which relationships between physical and chemical parameters and macroinvertebrate community structure in Mongolia exist. Therefore an important objective of the research was to quantify the effects of open placer gold mining on macroinvertebrate communities in different habitats in river systems related to the spatial and temporal dimensions of the impact. Generally, the results show that due to their local distribution in rivers and their association to the hyporheic zone and the river bottom, macroinvertebrate communities seemed to be strongly affected by these fine sediments, as the intergravel space got clogged and the respiration processes increased.

“Dukhan, a Turkic variety of Northern Mongolia: Description and Analysis” (Turcologica, Harrassowitz Verlag) Elisabetta Ragagnin. December 2011. This volume offers the first grammatical description of Dukhan, a highly 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. The present description is exclusively based on the material collected by the author during intensive fieldwork sojourns. After a presentation of the Dukhan people with respect to lifestyle, material culture and ethnohistorical background and some introductory linguistic considerations including a sociolinguistic scrutiny, the descriptive chapters focus on the sound system, derivational and inflectional morphology and the verbal categories aspect, mood and tense. The description of the phonological system is of particular interest, since it helps to better understand the fortis vs. lenis opposition of Turkic consonants. The volume also includes a large text corpus organized according to the topics "How to do things", "Life stories", "Tales" and "Legends". Each text is interlinearized: the first line represents the phonetic IPA-based transcription, the second line represents the broad transcription in use in Turcological studies, whereas the third and last line contains morpheme-by-morpheme glosses. Translations are given separately at the end of each text.

“Living with Herds: human-animal coexistence in Mongolia.” Natasha Fijn. Domestic animals have lived with humans for thousands of years and remain essential to the everyday lives of people throughout the world. In this book, Natasha Fijn examines the process of animal domestication in a study that blends biological and social anthropology, ethology and ethnography. She examines the social behavior of humans and animals in a contemporary Mongolian herding society. After living with Mongolian herding families, Dr. Fijn has observed through firsthand experience both sides of the human-animal relationship. Examining their reciprocal social behavior and communication with one another, she demonstrates how herd animals influence Mongolian herders’ lives and how the animals themselves are active partners in the domestication process.

“Harnessing Fortune: Personhood, Memory and Place in Mongolia (Proceedings of the British Academy)”. Rebecca M. Empson. June 2011. Based on long-term fieldwork with herding families along the Mongolian-Russian border, this book examines how people tend to past memories in their homes while navigating new ways of accumulating wealth and fortune in the face of political and economic uncertainties. It is at this intersection, where the politics of
tending to the past and the morality of new means of accumulating wealth come together to shape intimate social relations that the book reveals an innovative area for the study of kinship in anthropology. Combining personal experience with ethnographic insight, the volume will be essential reading for social anthropologists and those with a general interest in East Asia and post-socialist countries.

“Vegetation Dynamics of Mongolia (Geobotany).” P.D. Gunin, Elizabeth A. Vostokova, Nadezhda I. Dorofeyuk, Pavel E. Tarasov, Clanton C. Black (Editors). January, 2011. Mongolia is an expansive land-locked country, tilted by tectonic forces to the North, that experiences extremes of continental climate. Moisture-carrying wind currents are scarce so that the land has extended highs and lows in its environment. Culturally the people are mostly nomadic, having been sustained for centuries by an economy based on domestic livestock grazing. There is a saying that, `As the noses go, so goes Mongolia', referring to the domesticated grazing noses of sheep, goats, camels, yaks or horses, and wild ungulates such as gazelles. The vast fenceless steppes of Mongolia furnish the vegetation for grazing. With such extremes in climate it is clear that the vegetation must be resilient and dynamic to cope with the dictates of its extremely harsh environments. 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.

“Tibet, Tartary and Mongolia: Their Social and Political Condition, and the Religion of Boodh, as There Existing (Cambridge Library Collection - History).” Henry Thoby Prinsep. June 2011. Henry T. Prinsep (1792-1878) was the son of a prominent East India Company servant, and like his father, he spent much of his life in the East. He left Britain for Calcutta in 1809, at the age of seventeen, and stayed in India, working in a variety of roles, until his retirement in 1843. He wrote a number of books about India: in this work, published in 1851, he turns to the north of the subcontinent. Prinsep draws from travel narratives of the few explorers who had been to this territory - which corresponds to today's western China and Mongolia - to illustrate the lives of the people there. Using sources ranging from the thirteenth-century account by Marco Polo to eighteenth-century reports by French missionaries, Prinsep brings information on what was then a little-known world to a wider audience.