

This Month in Mongolian Studies – October 2010

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

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ACMS Sponsored Events

Call for Papers, Conferences and Workshops

Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

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News and Events

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ACMS Co-Sponsored Event

Date: October 12, 2010, EMBASSY OF MONGOLIA IN THE US

Discussion and Dinner Reception with His Excellency Khasbazar Bekhbat, Ambassador of Mongolia, cosponsored by the ACMS

His Excellency Khasbazar Bekhbat, Ambassador of Mongolia to the US, is hosting a diplomatic dialogue and a Mongolian dinner at the Embassy of Mongolia in the US. Ambassador Bekhbat will provide his perspectives on the US–Mongolia relationship. This event will also provide an exclusive opportunity to hear first-hand about the current economic and political developments in Mongolia. <http://asiasociety.org/events-calendar/update-us-mongolia-relations-and-political-and-economic-state-mongolia>

ACMS Speaker Series

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

Date: 5:30 PM, Thursday-October 28th, 2010, MUST, CENTRAL LIBRARY/E-SCHOOL BUILDING, U-CLASS ROOM 404.

Speaker: Annika Ericksen, ACMS Fellow, PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona
Title: “Dzud and the Politics of Responsibility in the Neoliberal Era”

Date: 5:30 PM, Thursday-November 4th, 2010 MUST, CENTRAL LIBRARY/E-SCHOOL BUILDING, U-CLASS ROOM 404.

Speaker: Bryan Miller, Ph.D., Research Consultant, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology
Title: “Examining Imperial Landscapes: A Multi-Scalar Approach to Archaic Political Systems”

ACMS US Office Seminar

Date: 4:00pm-5:30pm, Thursday, December 2nd, 2010, 206 INGRAHAM HALL, ACMS US OFFICE

Speaker: Munkh-Ochir Dorjjugder, Ph.D., Visiting Fellow, Brookings Institution, Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies

Title: “Same Rules, New Dimensions for Mongolia's National Security: Adapting to the New Geo-Economic Environment”

Call for Papers, Conferences and Workshops

Conference on "History of Central Asia in the Works of Russian and Kazakh Scholars from the 19th to the beginning of the 20th Century," Saint Petersburg

The conference will take place on November 2, 2010 in Saint Petersburg at the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts. The topics to be explored include: contributions of Ch. Valihanov, Russian-Kazakh scholar, to the field of Central Asia; Central Asian studies in Russia in the 19th to the beginning of the 20th century; archaeological findings and manuscripts in Central Asia in the 19-20 centuries; archival materials and resources of Central Asian studies in Saint Petersburg; academic ties of Russia with Kazakhstan in the field of Central Asia. Abstract deadline: October 25th. Contact: vodneva@inbox.ru.

Visit: http://www.orientalstudies.ru/rus/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2687&Itemid=0

ACES Central Eurasian Studies Conference, Indiana University

The Association of Central Eurasian Students (ACES) at Indiana University invites panel and individual paper proposals for the Eighteenth Annual Central Eurasian Studies Conference to be held Saturday, March 5, 2011 on the Bloomington campus of Indiana University. Graduate students, faculty, and independent scholars are invited to submit abstracts of papers addressing all topics pertaining to Central Eurasian Studies. Submission of pre-organized panels is strongly encouraged. Individual papers are also welcome and will be assigned by the Conference Committee to a suitable panel. Deadline: November 14, 2010.

Contact: aces@indiana.edu Visit: <http://www.indiana.edu/~aces/>

6th Asian Museum Curator's Conference, Bangalore

The fourth Asian Museum Curators' Conference will (AMCC) be held October 19-22, 2010 in Bangalore. Previous Conferences have taken place in Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Singapore and Malaysia with participants from museums across Asia. The AMCC has been a platform for networking and exchanges among participants in discussions on museology, curatorial practice, conservation, collection policies and other issues in Asian art discourses. In recent years, the AMCC has also extended its reach of participants to include arts practitioners and curators outside the institutional framework.

Contact: mohit@indiaifa.org Visit: <http://www.indiaifa.org/article.asp?id=665&viewtype=online>

Call for Manuscripts: The New Educational Assessment Regimes in Eurasia - Impacts, Issues and Implications

Many Eurasian republics of the former Soviet Union are creating new educational assessment protocols, instruments and institutions. The purposes of these new assessment regimes are to provide independent and objective information about national education quality at the individual and institutional levels and to assist in overcoming corrupt practices in educational evaluation and selection. The construction and administration of new assessments have been influenced or directly aided by international donor organizations in some of these countries. European Education is seeking manuscripts that critically explore and analyze the various aspects of these newly created educational assessment and monitoring systems. Articles should attempt to connect technical aspects and issues of education assessment with the political, social, and cultural issues involved in their creation and application. Articles can be descriptive analyses of the politics of reform and/or studies of the impact of new assessments or systems on institutions or individuals. They can employ case studies, historical accounts, or presentations and analysis of data generated by the new systems. Guest editors for this volume will be Todd Drummond (PhD candidate, Michigan State University) and Alan J. DeYoung (University of Kentucky). Deadline: January 1st, 2011. Manuscript guideline: http://www.mesharpe.com/journal_info/EUE%20contrib%20guidelines%202008.pdf Contact: twdrumm@yahoo.com

Twenty Years After: 1991 in Retrospect, Kolkata

The Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies has issued a call for papers for an international seminar to be held February 16-17, 2011. The seminar will focus on the the Post-Soviet transformations in social and cultural manifestations of change such as: art forms (films, iconography, aesthetics, music, tourism, architecture and media); the ways in which the newly independent states perceive themselves ([i.e.as](#) entities that are strictly 'sovereign' or as cosmopolitan spaces with pan-Iranian/pan-Turkic/pan-Mongol linkages and

sharing a Russian past); the rhetoric invoking 'national' sovereignty both in terms of its continuities and discontinuities which are today being reassessed in several ways; how experiences of independence have been both similar and dissimilar for the former Soviet republics themselves. The seminar topics include: 1991 - a watershed?; Not simply 'life beyond Communism'; New histories; Economic policies and performance; Myths, symbols and architecture; Potential for conflict.

Contact: info@makaias.com, suchandanachatterjee@hotmail.com, anitasengupta@hotmail.com or visit: <http://www.makaias.gov.in/aboutus.html>

Call for Proposals: The Privatization of Public Education in Africa and Asia

The changing dynamics of education in most countries over the last 30 years obscures an understanding of how the requirements of human rights and economic and social justice are to be met under the new and increasingly pervasive conditions of private, public, and private-public provision in education. The Privatization in Education Research Initiative (PERI), a multi-annual global initiative supported by the Education Support Program of the Open Society Foundations, seeks to contribute to a better understanding as to how the increasing adoption of a widening range educational service regulation and delivery mechanisms might lead to more effective and equitable education systems. In its first two-year phase, PERI seeks to commission up to twenty pieces of research. Proposals that focus on the primary and/or secondary sectors will be prioritized, however proposals will be considered which address these issues in the higher education sector that have implications for schooling, such as teacher training. It is intended that additional funding will become available in 2012 and lead to a further call for proposals. Deadline: October 15, 2010.

Visit: <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/esp/news/education-privatization-20100917>

Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

The Sir George Staunton Prize

The Staunton Prize (£250) is for essays produced by scholars (in the process of completing their PhD or who have received their doctorate within the last five years) in the disciplines of history, archaeology, literature, language, religion, archaeology or art of Asia. The focus is not limited to any specific region within Asia or to any particular discipline, reflecting the broad scope of the Society's activities and interests. Award-winning submissions will be published in the Society's *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. Deadline: October 31st, 2010. Contact: Executive Editor, cdb@royalasiaticsociety.org, The Journal, Royal Asiatic Society, 14 Stephenson Way London NW1, 2HD or visit: <http://www.royalasiaticsociety.org/site/?q=taxonomy/term/5>

Global Undergraduate Exchange Program

The Global UGRAD Program funded by the US Embassy in Mongolia has undergraduate scholarship funds to provide a diverse group of emerging student leaders with a substantive exchange experience at an American college or university. Students both from rural and urban areas are encouraged to apply to this program, which offers one-semester and one-academic year scholarships to outstanding undergraduate students for non-degree study at accredited American institutions. To qualify, the students must, *inter alia*, be a second or third year student of a university in Mongolia and have a GPA of no less than 3.0. Deadline: November 1st, 2010.

Visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/ugrad_2012.html

The British Library's Endangered Archives Program

The Program aims to preserve and disseminate cultural knowledge and to promote education and research by awarding grants to applicants to locate relevant endangered archival collections, and where possible to arrange their transfer to a suitable local archival home. Pilot projects that investigate the survival of archival collections on a particular subject, in a discrete region, or in a specific format are particularly welcomed. To be considered for funding under the Program, the archival material should relate to a 'pre-modern' period of a society's history; the relevant time period will therefore vary according to the society. The endangered archival material will normally be located in countries where resources and opportunities to preserve such material are lacking or limited. For the purposes of the Program, the term 'archival material' is interpreted widely to include rare printed books, newspapers and periodicals, audio and audio-visual materials, photographs and manuscripts. Deadline: November 5th, 2010. Visit: <http://eap.bl.uk/>Contact: endangeredarchives@bl.uk

Call for Proposals: Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation - FY2011

The Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation of the American Embassy in Ulaanbaatar issued a call for proposals for projects to be funded in 2011. Grants have typically ranged from US\$10,000 to US\$30,000 and higher. Proposals may include projects directed at the preservation of: 1). an object or collection of objects (from a site, a museum or similar institution); 2). a cultural site or sites; 3). forms of traditional cultural expression. Deadline: November 8th, 2010. Visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/fy2011_afcp.html

Production Grant for Photographers from Central Asia, the South Caucasus, Afghanistan, Mongolia, and Pakistan

The Open Society Documentary Photography Project and Arts and Culture Program announce a grant and training opportunity for documentary photographers from Central Asia, the South Caucasus, Afghanistan, Mongolia, and Pakistan. The grant is being offered to visually document issues of importance in the region and provide training and support to photographers from the region. Approximately 10 cash stipends in the amount of \$3,500 each will be awarded to photographers to produce a photo essay on a current human rights or social issue in the region. Grantees will participate in two master-level workshops on visual storytelling through photography and multimedia. These workshops are led by internationally-recognized photographers and industry professionals who will then provide ongoing mentorship and support throughout the six-month grant term. The Open Society Foundation will pay travel and hotel expenses and provide funds to cover meals and incidentals for the workshops. Deadline December 3rd, 2010.

Visit: <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/photography/news/production-grant-call-20100921>

New NCEEER Program to Support Research on Indigenous Peoples in Russia

The National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER) will fund summer research projects related to the indigenous peoples of Russia. This fellowship supports the collaboration of postdoctoral scholars and graduate students at universities in the United States with demonstrated experience in scholarship and/or outreach with indigenous communities and populations, to study the indigenous peoples of Russia. The scholars will conduct

research at the Gorno-Altai State University (GASU, <http://www.gasu.ru/eng/frame.html>) in the Altai Republic in Russia, a leading Russian university for the support of research on the indigenous peoples of Russia. All applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The maximum award is \$38,000 and research topics may include: environmental protection and sustainability; environmental journalism; preservation of indigenous language and culture studies; educational and curricular reform for indigenous populations; issues of self-determination, sovereignty, and treaty rights, cultural preservation and enrichment, land rights; and the study of networking of indigenous populations and organizations in Russia. Deadline: January 1st, 2011.

Visit: <http://www.nceeer.org/Programs/NRC/RIPR/ripr.php>

CAORC Multi-Country Research Fellowship Program Extended to Fund Master's Students

The Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) is pleased to announce the expansion of the Multi-Country Research Fellowship Program. Starting with the 2010-11 cycle, U.S. citizens enrolled in a master's degree granting program are eligible to apply for a Multi-Country Research 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. master's students, 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 ten awards of up to \$12,000 each will be given in the doctoral candidate/post-doctoral scholar competition. Approximately four awards of up to \$8,000 each will be given in the master's student competition. Deadline: January 12, 2011. Visit: <http://www.caorc.org/programs/multi.htm>

Open Society Academic Fellowship Program

The Open Society Foundation offers support to scholars to work at universities in Southeastern Europe, parts of the former Soviet Union, and Mongolia. Recognizing that universities play a fundamental role in supporting civil society, the AFP aims to contribute to higher education reform in Southeastern Europe and Eurasia, and to help build academic networks locally, regionally, and globally. AFP focuses on both the educational institution

and the individual scholar by helping reform-minded departments achieve world-class academic stature in hopes that the departments will become model platforms for innovation and reform elsewhere in the region and by assisting promising local scholars by promoting their return to the region, their positioning within academia, and their continued professional development. Deadline April 11, 2011.

Visit: <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/news/call-academic-fellowship-20100922>

Resources

Mongolian Language Course at the University of Kansas

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) at the University of Kansas is now offering courses in the Mongolian language for academic credit. EALC provides instruction at the Elementary I and Elementary II levels of Mongolian and provides 3 credits per course. The instructor is a Ph.D. candidate and native speaker of Mongolian. Visit: <http://www2.ku.edu/~ealc/languages/mongolian/index.shtml> e-mail: serjb@ku.edu

International Cultural Exchange Society (ICES), Mongolia

ICES is a Mongolian non-governmental organization with the mission to promote Mongolian arts and culture abroad and to foster cross-cultural awareness. ICES funds travel costs of Mongolian artists abroad and also funds artists from other countries to perform in Mongolia. This organization also hosts festivals, organizes performances, exhibitions and offers an international artist-in-residence program.

Visit: http://www.thisismongolia.com/ices/index.php?page=t_project

Global Business Report - Mongolia

Global Business Reports (GBR) for the *Engineering and Mining Journal*(E&MJ) is available now online. GBR was established in 2001 in order to provide up-to-date, first-hand information for global business decision makers. Precise sector reports help companies understand and expand their markets, improve their sourcing chain, target their investments and discover the trends affecting their industry around the world. GBR provides in-depth surveys and data covering all aspects of the hydrocarbon, chemical, textile, energy, electronics, minerals, mining and metallurgical industries around the world. For the report on Mongolia visit: <http://www.gbreports.com/industry.php?i=2>

Opportunities to Learn Mongol Bichig, Ulaanbaatar

The Center for Mongolian Script and Culture of the Mongolian State University of Education is pleased to announce opportunities to learn the Classical Mongolian script, Clear Script Oirat and the Tibetan script, in individualized training sessions. Learning at the elementary level of Classical Mongolian and Clear Script Oirat requires Intermediate-level Modern Mongolian. Contact: ganboldmn@yahoo.com; LJumdaan@yahoo.com

News, Events and Announcements

Birch Bark Documents Found in Mongolia

New archaeological findings were discovered in Mongolia as part of a joint project between Japanese scientists and scientists from the Mongolian Institute for the International Study of Nomadic Civilization. Documents from the 16th to 17th century were found as a result of excavations at the Har Buh ruins in Bulgan aimag's Dashinchilen somon. The documents were discovered 2.5-3 meters below the ground and tell the story about the spread of religion in Mongolia, how the monasteries were built, and how theological texts were translated into Mongolian. In the Buleen region, the project scientists also recently discovered a statue with Khitan writing on it. A preliminary examination of the statue indicates that the statue was erected on August 1st of 1058. Prior to this discovery experts have found Khitan writings mostly on cave walls. Scholars are still unable to fully decipher the Khitan language which is believed to be distantly related to Mongolian.

Source: http://www.montsame.mn/index.php?option=com_news&mt=normal_news&tab=201008&task=news_detail&ne=1160

First Asia-Europe Film Festival to be held in Ulaanbaatar

The [Arts Council of Mongolia](#) (ACM), with the support of the [Asia-Europe Foundation](#) (ASEF) and the [Open Society Institute](#), will bring together filmmakers and film industry professionals from Asia, Europe, Central Asia, the USA and Mongolia for the "East Meets West" Film Forum and Festival, to be held in October 5-8, 2010 in Ulaanbaatar. A panel of international guests has been invited to meet in Ulaanbaatar to share ideas, screen films and work with Mongolian filmmakers to further the local industry. The Festival will consist of film screenings with post-viewing discussions, a one-day forum focused on the global film industry, and workshops for new Mongolian filmmakers. Source: <http://culture360.org/news/mongoliainternational-film-forum-and-festival/>

"From the Steppes and the Monasteries: Arts of Mongolia and Tibet," Indiana University - Fall 2010

This exhibition of Mongolian and Tibetan art offers a glimpse of the religious and secular arts of two geographically and politically separate peoples whose practice of Buddhism has joined them together culturally at key moments in their history. The material in this exhibition includes plaques, a selection of contemporary nomadic artifacts such as horse whips and textiles, and artifacts associated with Buddhism as practiced in Mongolia and Tibet. The Mongolian art in this exhibition is drawn from a private collection on loan to the IU Art Museum. The Exhibition is from September 25 to December 19, 2010. Contact: monsoc@indiana.edu

Two Yuan Dynasty Exhibitions at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

"The World of Khubilai Khan: Chinese Art in the Yuan Dynasty" September 28-Jan 2, 2011 is an exhibition covering the period from 1215, the year of Khubilai's birth, to 1368, the year of the fall of the Yuan dynasty in China, founded by Khubilai Khan. It features paintings, sculpture, gold and silver, textiles, ceramics, lacquer, and other decorative arts, religious and secular. The exhibition highlights new art forms and styles generated in China as a result of the unification of China under the Yuan dynasty and the massive influx of craftsmen from all over the Mongol Empire—with reverberations in Italian art of the fourteenth century. "The Yuan Revolution: Art and Dynastic Change" August 21- Jan 9, 2011 was organized to complement the Museum's major loan exhibition "The World of Khubilai Khan." This installation, in the Museum's permanent galleries for Chinese painting and calligraphy, traces the momentous stylistic transformation in painting and calligraphy that began under Mongol rule and culminated in the literati traditions of the early Ming. The exhibit will showcase some seventy Yuan and early Ming works of art from New York—area private and public collections. "The World of Khubilai Khan: Chinese Art in the Yuan Dynasty", James Watt, (October, 2010), Metropolitan Museum of Art is the exhibit catalogue. In the 11 essays included in this volume, art historians discuss the origins of new art forms, daily life in Yuan China, in particular at the imperial court and in the capital cities of Xanadu (Shangdu) and Dadu (Beijing), and the impact on the arts of the religions practiced at this time. http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/01/arts/design/01khan.html?_r=1&emc=eta1

Mongolia Allows Direct Foreign Access to China via Altai

For the first time, Mongolia has opened its borders with China at Altai to foreign tourists. The decision comes after a meeting between Russia, China, Mongolia and Kazakhstan to look at ways to better open up the Altai region and promote more trade and tourism. The new crossing to China is located at the Mongolian border at Khovd. Source: <http://www.china-briefing.com/news/2010/09/07/mongolia-allows-direct-foreign-access-to-china-via-altai.html>

Recent Publications

"New Materials on the Khitan Small Script: A Critical Edition of Xiao Dilu & Yelü Xiangwen", Wu Yingzhe and Juha Janhunen, (November, 2010), Brill. This volume contains a state-of-the-art survey of Khitan Small Script studies, with a critical analysis of two recently discovered and previously unpublished epigraphic documents.

"The Mongols and Global History", Morris Rossabi, (October, 2010), W.W. Norton Publisher. This title offers a balanced view on the importance of the Mongol empire in the histories of the civilizations the Mongols subjugated, including China, Iran and West Asia, and Russia.

"Herdsman to Statesman: The Autobiography of Jamsrangiin Sambuu" Zh. Sambuu, Translated by Morris Rossabi, (November, 2010), Rowman and Littlefield. This autobiography offers a panoramic view of the daily joys of a traditional Mongolian herding life as well as the hardships of oppressive foreign rule, abetted by avaricious local nobles and monks. Sambuu's story demonstrates the attraction of Communism for the poor and subjugated in an exploitative system. He himself flourished under Communism, becoming ambassador to the Soviet Union during the Stalin era and to North Korea during the Korean War and ultimately president of Mongolia.

"Not Quite Shamans: Spirit Worlds and Political Lives in Northern Mongolia", Morten Axel Pedersen, (Spring, 2011), Cornell University Press.

"Мир Дикой Природы-Удивительная Монголия" (The World of Wild Nature-Mongolia), Vladimir Medvedev, (2010), Маркет ДС. The book offers photographic narrative of remote and unexplored places in Mongolia.

"Этноэкологические традиции тюрко-монгольских народов в тэнгрианско-буддийской цивилизации Внутренней Азии" (Ethno-Ecological Traditions of Turkic-Mongolian Nations in Tengristic-Buddhist Civilizations of Inner Asia), Nikolai Abayev, Nurmagambada Ayupova, (2010), Кызыл: Издательство ТывГУ. The book discusses processes of influence of earlier forms of tengrism and Buddhism on the formation of ecological culture within nomadic civilizations of Central Asia, along the Trans-Sayan routes and the Altai-Baikal. A special focus of this work is the influence of tengrism and Tibetan Buddhism on the formation of faith from cults and rituals in Turkic-Mongolian tradition and how such influence cultivated ethno-ecological culture.

"Чингизиды: Династии и Эпохи" (Descendants of Chinggis: Dynasties and Epochs), Anatolii Olovintsev, Gizat Tabuldin, (September, 2010). The book offers extensive genealogical tables of direct descendants and relatives who settled in Eurasia and beyond as part of the Mongolian empire.

"Mongolia: Land of the Deer Stone", Elaine Ling, (2010), Lodima Press. Contains photographs of and essays about Deer Stones, Turkic Stones, and ovoos scattered across Mongolia. Dr. William W. Fitzhugh, Director of the Arctic Study Center, Smithsonian Institution and Chairman of the Board, ACMS, contributed to the section on Deer Stones.

"Каталог буддийских икон танка и цакли. Живописные изображения буддийских учителей и божеств" (Catalogue of Buddhist Icons, Tanka and Tsakli. Fine Art Depictions of Buddhist Mentors and Deities), A.V. Zorin, M. B. Iohvin, L. E. Kyakina, S. L. Shevelchinskaya, T. F. Yakovleva, (09/2010), Institute of Oriental Manuscripts-Saint Petersburg. The electronic catalogue is on CD and is accompanied by a booklet with images of icons and brief annotations. All the icons entered into the catalogue are from a private collection of the Institute.

"Pre-Modern States on China's North-Eastern Frontier: The Liao, 916-1125, and The Koryo 918-1392," Remco Breuker, (March, 2011), Routledge. This book examines the pre-modern states on China's north-eastern frontier during the 10th, 11th and 12th centuries, a crucial formative period in which the shape of the modern Chinese and northeast Eurasian states from Mongolia to Korea was formed. Liao is best known as the initiator of the lineage of northern states which dominated the political history of China for an entire millennium from 900 to 1900. It formulated a model of multi-ethnic empire whose conceptions and systems of socio-political organization were highly influential for a number of polities including the Mongol empire, Manchukuo and the People's Republic of China.

"Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherers of the Baikal Region, Siberia: Bioarchaeological Studies of Past Life Ways," Andrzej Weber, (March, 2010), University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. Siberia's Lake Baikal region is an archaeologically unique and emerging area of hunter-gatherer research, offering insights into the complexity, variability, and dynamics of long-term culture change. The Baikal Archaeology Project—one of the most comprehensive studies ever conducted in the history of subarctic archaeology—is conducted by an international multidisciplinary team studying Middle Holocene hunter-gatherers of the region.

“Xinjiang and China's Rise in Central Asia, 1949-2009,” Michael E. Clarke, (March, 2011), Routledge. This book provides an account of how China's evolving integrationist policies in Xinjiang have influenced its foreign policy in Central Asia since the establishment of the People's Republic in 1949. The author argues that there is a largely complementary relationship between China's Xinjiang, Central Asia and grand strategy-derived interests, which pattern informs and shapes China's diplomacy in Central Asia and its approach to the governance of Xinjiang.

“Managing Urban Expansion in Mongolia: Best Practices in Scenario-Based Urban Planning” Takuya Kamata, James A. Reichert, Tumentsogt Tsevegmid, Yoonhee Kim, Brett Sedgewick, (May, 2010), World Bank. The sustainable development of ger areas in Ulaanbaatar is one of the critical development issues facing the country. The ger areas host 60% of the population of Ulaanbaatar, and they have expanded 35 times greater than the original center of the city. Provision of basic services (e.g. heating and water supply) is very limited or non-existent in ger areas. The lack of basic public services resulted in air and water pollution as well as serious health risks to residents. Many supporting mechanisms, including land valuation and taxation, have not yet been developed to create incentives for long-term value creation. This book aims at helping policy makers and citizens of Ulaanbaatar to improve their understanding of the consequences of their choices of policies and practices. Specifically, it intends to provide clear cost and benefit implications of three different development paths for seven sectors (land and housing, water supply, roads and public transport, heating, electricity, solid waste, and social services).

“Chinese Migrants in Russia, Central Asia and Eastern Europe,” Felix Chang, Sunnie-Rucker Chang, (April, 2011), Routledge. The countries of the former Soviet bloc – Russia, Eastern Europe and the countries of Central Asia – have a disproportionately high number of Chinese immigration. In many of these countries Chinese immigrants are engaged in entrepreneurial activities, often dominating key sectors of the economy. This book provides a comprehensive overview of Chinese migration to these countries. It explores how Chinese migration has come about, discusses the motivation of the migrants and examines the significant contribution the migrants are making. The book relates Chinese migration to wider issues of globalization and international business, and assesses the idea that Chinese migrants seem to thrive in ravaged countries deemed too risky by institutional businesses.

“A Field Guide to the Birds of Mongolia” Gombobaatar Sundeev, Axel Braunlich, Boldbaatar Shagdarsuren, (June, 2010), Christopher Helm Publishers. Bird taxonomy and nomenclature, description of descriptive parts for each species, distribution and status, plumage terminology, geography, climate, main habitat, important bird species, migration, bird watching areas, bird research and conservation organizations in the country are described in this book. Authors gave plumage description, specific field identification features of each species, general distribution, occurrence, and status on a total of 487 species of birds in Mongolia, in detail.