### Société des études mongoles et sibériennes (SEMS)

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Centre d'études mongoles et sibériennes 54 boulevard Raspail 75006 Paris



# Lettre d'information des études mongoles et sibériennes n°83

20 mai 2025

# Site des études mongoles et sibériennes

New pages have been created on the Mongolian and Siberian Studies website

- **CEMS**: The book collection of the Centre d'Études Mongoles et Sibériennes (CEMS) covers ethnology, languages, history, and politics, with over 5,000 monographs and 500 periodicals in Mongolian, Russian, Chinese, and European languages, including a dozen of ancient books and manuscripts. It is available for consultation at the Humathèque Condorcet Library at Campus Condorcet.

https://etudesmongolesetsiberiennes.fr/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/CEMS-pour-le-site.pdf

- **BULAC**: The BULAC (Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations / University Library of Languages and Civilisations) includes nearly 4,400 books related to Mongolian studies Mongolian, Chinese, Kazakh, Buryat, and European languages, with a focus on history, ethnology, linguistics, and literature.

https://etudesmongolesetsiberiennes.fr/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/BULAC-relu-AD-13-03-2025-FINAL.pdf

- Mongolia in the archives of Albert Kahn: Photographs of Stéphane Passet: This article presents a collection of 141 autochrome plates and films on Mongolia (1912–1913) from Albert Kahn's Archives de la Planète project. Photographer Stéphane Passet documented monastic life, daily activities, and officials in Urga (Ikh Khüree) and other places. These autochromes and films are now housed at the Musée Albert-Kahn in Boulogne-Billancourt.

https://etudesmongolesetsiberiennes.fr/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/MONGOLIE-STEPHANE-PASSET-Anglais-002.pdf

# Réseau « Religions à l'Est »

Nous avons le plaisir de vous annoncer la création de **Religions à l'Est, un réseau de chercheurs sur les religions dans l'Empire russe, l'URSS et les États ex-soviétiques** au sein du GDR Est (<a href="https://gdrest.hypotheses.org/">https://gdrest.hypotheses.org/</a>). Il a pour vocation d'impulser la recherche collective, de soutenir les jeunes chercheurs et de favoriser le dialogue avec la cité. Nous vous encourageons à le rejoindre si vous travaillez sur cette question.

La première séance de Religions à l'Est sera consacrée à la **présentation de deux films portant sur le chamanisme aujourd'hui.** 

Elle aura lieu le mardi 27 mai 2025 de 15h à 17h à l'Inalco (65, rue des Grands Moulins, 75013 Paris) en salle 5.20 (5e étage).

Mikhail Bashkirov présentera le film Сказка о шамане – Conte de chamane (2024, France, République Tchèque, 75 mn). Réalisateurs : Beata Bashkirova & Mikhail Bashkirov.

Conte de Chaman suit la quête extraordinaire d'Alexandre Gabychev, un chaman yakoute, convaincu d'avoir été missionné par Dieu pour libérer le monde du Mal. En 2019, il entreprend de traverser la Russie à pied depuis Yakoutsk pour exorciser Vladimir Poutine « l'Incarnation du mal ».

Mikhail Bashkirov, né à Moscou, s'est spécialisé sur l'histoire de la colonisation et sur les questions d'interactions ethniques. Il a émigré en France en 2022. Il est l'auteur de « "Le chamaneguerrier" Alexandre Gabychev : une identité à la croisée de deux cultures », Slavica Occitania, 58, 2024. https://interfas.univ-tlse2.fr/slavicaoccitania/4648

Ksenia Pimenova présentera *Esprits des trois sommets*, le documentaire qu'elle a réalisé en 2016 (Production CNRS Images, avec le concours du Groupe Sociétés Religions Laïcités (UMR 8582), 56 mn). Esprits des trois sommets évoque Véra, une chamane russe, qui, dans un village lointain de la République de Touva, perpétue les traditions religieuses locales au sein d'une association chamanique nommée Les Trois Sommets. Dans un contexte en pleine mutation, entre conflits de pouvoir et compétition avec d'autres courants religieux, tel que le bouddhisme, elle tente de maintenir à flot l'association avec deux autres femmes du lieu.

Ksenia Pimenova, née à Moscou, est maîtresse de conférences en anthropologie à Paris Nanterre.

La séance sera modérée par Dominique Samson Normand de Chambourg (INALCO).

L'accès à la séance est libre. Voici le lien de connexion si vous souhaitez la suivre à distance :

https://zoom.us/j/94142999702?pwd=AW8Vb0l2Rn79b9Q3jEbHEQ8T5QbO0y.1

ID de réunion: 941 4299 9702

Code secret: 462499

Cette première séance de Religions à l'Est est dédiée à **Roberte Hamayon** (1939-2025), autrice de *La chasse à l'âme. Esquisse d'une théorie du chamanisme sibérien* (1990), qui a inspiré toute une génération de chercheurs travaillant sur la Sibérie et la Mongolie.

Bien cordialement, Kathy Rousselet, Dany Savelli, Detelina Tocheva



## Séminaires et conférences

# Séminaire des études mongoles 2025

La dernière séance séminaire des études mongoles est annulée.

### Séminaire du MIASU

The MIASU research seminar programme for the Easter term is now available to view here: <a href="https://www.miasu.socanth.cam.ac.uk/files/media/easter">https://www.miasu.socanth.cam.ac.uk/files/media/easter</a> 2025.pdf

Tuesdays 4.30-6pm (UK time), Seminar Room, Mond Building

Tuesday 27 May: **Elizabeth Turk**, University of Cambridge: *Medical Imperialism in the Mongolian People's Republic: towards an integration of post-colonial and post-socialist frames of analysis (in-person only)* 

Tuesday 3 June: **Ilya Gruntov**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem: *Rivers in Vernacular Religion and Folklore of the Khamnigans Living along the Onon River (Mongolia)* 

Tuesday 17 June: Otgon Borjigin, Northwest Minzu University, Lanzhou: The Mongols and Dunhuang

### Séminaire « Institutions et pratiques politiques »

Séminaire EHESS - UE778 : Institutions et pratiques politiques des nomades de la grande steppe

Responsables: Étienne de la Vaissière (EHESS, CETOBaC) & Simon Berger (CNRS, CeRMI)

Le séminaire portera sur les institutions et le répertoire de gouvernement des pouvoirs nomades sur la très longue durée, des Xiongnu jusqu'à la fin de la période mongole, du Ille siècle avant notre ère jusqu'à la fin du XVe siècle, à l'échelle de l'ensemble des steppes d'Eurasie. En s'appuyant sur les récents débats tant anthropologiques que philologiques sur l'organisation des sociétés nomades, il s'agira de mettre en avant les caractères originaux et parfois complexes d'une culture politique et d'une forme particulière de l'État propres au monde des steppes.

Le séminaire aura lieu chaque 1er et 3e vendredi du mois, de 10h30 à 12h30, en salle A602 du bâtiment EHESS-Condorcet, 2 cours des humanités, 93300 Aubervilliers. L'accès est libre mais l'inscription est obligatoire via le lien suivant : <a href="https://participations.ehess.fr/demandes/">https://participations.ehess.fr/demandes/</a> nouvelle ?seminaire=778

Contact: etienne.de-la-vaissiere@ehess.fr, simon.berger@cnrs.fr

Renseignements: https://enseignements.ehess.fr/2024-2025/ue/778



# **Colloques**

# 18-22 juillet 2025: International Symposium on National Philology and Classics

#### Letter of Invitation (No. 1)

January 6, 2025

Dear Esteemed Colleague,

We pleased to invite you to the International Symposium on National Philology and Classics, to be held from July 18 to 22, 2025, in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China. The event is jointly organized by Institute of Advanced Study in National Philology and Classics at Inner Mongolia University and the Institute of Historical and Philological Studies of Western Regions at Renmin University of China.

As a unified multi-ethnic country, China embodies a diverse yet cohesive civilizational community. "National Philology" represents a vital area of research within China Studies, grounded in both a multi-faceted national identity and an understanding of the Chinese nation. This field utilizes a variety of languages and classic texts from China's ethnic groups, employing multi-ethnic literature as its primary research methodology to explore the historical, linguistic, cultural, religious, and philosophical aspects of various classical civilizations. It aims to elucidate the origins, development, forms, and systems of Chinese civilization as a whole, contributing to the construction of modern Chinese national identity. The symposium will cover a range of topics, including but not limited to: 1) Theories, methodologies, and approaches of national philology; 2) Philological research on multilingual literature; 3) Eurasian philology and mutual learning among civilizations. In recognition of your outstanding contributions to the field of Chinese philology and classical studies, we cordially invite you to attend this academic conference and share your insights.

There will be no registration fee for this conference. The hosting organization will cover accommodation and academic excursion expenses, while participants are kindly requested to manage their own travel costs. Should you require financial assistance for travel, please feel free to apply to the organizing committee. A formal invitation letter will be issued upon receipt of your RSVP. For further inquiries, please contact us:

Prof. Borjigidai Oyunbilig Email: <a href="mailto:bilig63@126.com">bilig63@126.com</a> Phone: +86 135 2100 8792 Prof. Huang Weizhong (<a href="mailto:vphrinlas@126.com">vphrinlas@126.com</a>, Phone: +86 18519758160) Prof. Shen Weirong Email: <a href="mailto:shenweirong@yahoo.com">shenweirong@yahoo.com</a> Phone: +86 139 1168 8539

We look forward to welcoming you to this enriching academic event.

Sincerely,

Convenors:

Prof. Shen Weirong, Prof. Borjigidai Oyunbilig & Huang Weizhong Tsinghua University, Inner Mongolia University, Renmin University of China

### 21-23 août 2025: The International Symposium on Mongolian Studies 2025

Inner Mongolia University has a remarkable track record of successful organization of four International Symposiums on Mongolian Studies in the period between 1987 and 2004. These events have exerted a profound influence on international Mongolian studies. To resume and further promote this important organizational project, The International Symposium on Mongolian Studies 2025 is scheduled to take place from **August 20th to 24th, 2025 in Hohhot**, Inner Mongolia, China.

The Symposium will be hosted by the School of Mongolian Studies, Inner Mongolia University. The Symposium will be based on the theme **Uphold Integrity and Innovation**, and Strive for First-class **Achievements Once More**. The following panels will be organized during the conference days:

### Symposium panels

- 1. Linguistics and Philology
- 2. Literature and Art
- 3. History and Archeology
- 4. Classical Literature and Documents
- 5. Culture and Communication

### **Important Dates**

If you are interested to attend the Symposium:

- 1. Please submit your application by May 9, 2025. Applications should be submitted by filling in the form below and sending it to the Conference e-mail <a href="mailto:2025msc@126.com">2025msc@126.com</a>.
- 2. Please submit the full-length paper by June 26, 2025.

#### Conference schedule:

Registration August 20, 2025.

Conference sessions August 21 to 23, 2025.

Departure August 24, 2025.

### **Symposium Venue**

Northern Campus of Inner Mongolia University, No. 235, Daxue West Road, Saihan District, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, China.

### Symposium Fee

There is no conference fee for the Symposium. During the symposium, the room and board expenses of the participants will be borne by the organizers, and the round-trip transportation expenses shall be covered by the participants themselves.

#### **Contact Information**

Conference e-mail: 2025msc@126.com

### 7-11 septembre 2025 : Sixth International Conference on Mongolic Linguistics

Sixth International Conference on Mongolic Linguistics (ML 2025) to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, from September 7 to 11, 2025.

The Conference is co-hosted by Department of Modern Turkic Languages and Literatures & Mongolian Studies Center, Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University, and School of Mongolian Studies, Inner Mongolia University.

The Conference is based on the theme "Language Contact of Mongolic: History and Present Condition". ML 2025 will serve as a comprehensive forum for exchange of novel knowledge and experience in investigating various aspects of Mongolic languages, especially those subsumed under the general theme of the Conference. Please find attached further information on the Conference.

### Important dates:

March 15, 2025 — deadline for the submission of abstracts

April 15, 2025 — notification of acceptance / rejection of abstracts

September 7-11, 2025 — the Conference.

The following issues are expected to be discussed:

- Language contact of Mongolic in synchronic and diachronic perspectives;
- Contact-induced language change in the history of Mongolic;
- General trends and specific developments in historical and modern Mongolic varieties;
- Recent advances in Mongolic etymological studies;
- Sociolinguistic situations in Mongolic-speaking areas;
- Genetic and areal features of the Mongolic languages and dialects;
- Typology of Mongolic phonological, grammatical and lexical systems;
- Contemporary methods and approaches to the study of the Mongolic languages;
- Problems of classification and historical periodization of Mongolic languages and dialects;
- Principles and methods of modern Mongolic dialectological studies.

This list of possible topics is by no means exhaustive or directive, it just provides the framework of the Conference.

The working languages at the Conference will be English, Mongolian, and Russian.

There is no conference fee. Unfortunately, the Organizing Committee lacks funding to cover travel expenses and accommodation.

If you are interested to participate please submit your application by **March 15, 2025.** Applications should be submitted by filling in the form below. We are planning to have published Conference Proceedings with

full-length papers after the Conference. The deadline and guidelines for submission of papers will be specified in the next circulars We will inform you whether your paper is selected by the Organizing Committee before April 15, 2025.

The ML 2025 will be held as an in-person event, but online participation will also be acceptable.

E-mail address: <a href="mailto:monglang2025@gmail.com">monglang2025@gmail.com</a>, please indicate the topic of your message as follows: "To the Organizing Committee".

Prof. Dr. Mehmet ÖLMEZ

Department of Modern Turkic Languages and Literatures & Mongolian Studies Center, Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University

President of the ML 2025

# Call for papers – Appel à communication

30 octobre-2 novembre 2025: International conference Cross-cultural Multisenses and Food

### Cross-cultural Multi-senses and Food in Eastern Eurasia:

# **Locality and Mobility**

Conference date: October 30th (Thr.) to November 2nd (Sun.), 2025

Venue: Kim Namjoo Hall, College of Humanities, CNU (80-seat auditorium)

**Organizer**: Paehwan Seol, 2023-24 HYI Alum. from Chonnam National University, South Korea is the chair of Department of History, CNU and the president of KACAS and RCHC Director

**Sponsors:** The Harvard-Yenching Institute, Chonnam National University and National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)

**Host Institutions**: Department of History, Chonnam National University in collaboration with Research Center of History and Culture (RCHC) and Korean Association of Central Asian Studies (KACAS).

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### **Scholarly Rationale and Objectives**

RCHC's six-year project "Multisenses and Food" explores the interactions of multisensory experiences on individuals and communities, focusing on the historical and sensory aspects of Eurasian food culture from the 10th to the 20th centuries. It analyzes the materiality, places, everyday life, sociality, cultures, and political power of five senses. Its research team analyzes the following topics by year: (1) Ingredients of food (taste, food chains, ecological environment); (2) Cooking (cooking labor, chefs, gender, kitchens); (3) Cookbooks and culinary knowledge (the accumulation and transmission of culinary knowledge); (4) Table setting (forms and methods of table settings); (4) Rituals (feasts and their landscapes); (5) Cultural politics of food (multisenses and power).

This international conference is an opening event of the sensory project. The conference, entitled *Cross-cultural Multisenses and Food in Eastern Eurasia : Locality and Mobility* (동부 유라시아의 감각과 음식:

지역성과 이동성), aims to explore cultural expressions of individual senses, their locality and mobility, and historical changes in East and Central Asia, focusing on food stories and beyond. The conference will consist of two sessions: (1) General or cross-cultural themes in sensory history; (2) Multisenses and Food. Some speakers will find cultural phenomena of five (and more) human senses, such as touch, sight, hearing, smell and taste, while others will closely consider sensory behaviors and expressions in food culture. Participants will trace cultural features of multisenses in Eastern Eurasia and place them in transregional and historical contexts. They will discover the global universality and local and daily specificity of multisenses.

In particular, "Multisenses and Food" session explores food ingredients, and their qualities, acquisition processes, and movement from sensory perspectives. Its speakers will uncover the typical tastes of regions and communities, referred to as "the taste of home (town), the taste of mother," and explore family, ethnic, and national identity. They will investigate the production, movement, and consumption of familiar or new food ingredients such as grains, vegetables, fruits, livestock, animals, and fish. This may be widely connected to the issues of globalization and industrialization of food, while paying attention to the geography, climate, and natural environment surrounding food sources.

**Scholarly Rationale:** The multisensory was barely recognized in history until the 20th century. It is attracting intellectual curiosity in the 21st century. In 2005, Robert Jütte of the University of Stuttgart emphasized the need to historicize the senses in *A History of the Senses*. He asks historians to investigate how the senses have transformed the way we experience the world and to study the historicity of bodily experience and the forms in which it has been preserved and inherited.

Studying the multisensory world of the past not only describes colors, sounds, tastes, smells, touches of a particular era, but also reveals the meanings, cultures, economy, and power relations that it had for contemporaries. The sensory study relates to individual daily life, gender, individual and community identities, rituals, religions, cultures, and power. The conference will contextualize human senses in history of East and Central Asia.

**Importance of the Conference:** The conference will be the first of its kind in Korean academics to analyze micro- and macro-relationship between human body, health, science, materials, civilization, and ecology and to highlight everyday life, culture, and political power from the perspectives of "insignificant things," food, and senses. Multisensory history and cultures focus on bodily experiences and provides a deeper

understanding of human relationships with materials, ecology, societies, technology, and political, cultural, and economic power.

The conference of "Cross-cultural Multisenses and Food in Eastern Eurasia: Locality and Mobility" is an opening door of the project "Multisenses and Food," investigating the interactions of the "insignificant" things of the mouth, eyes, nose, ears, and hands on the history and culture of individuals and communities. Cooking and taste is effective in re-discovering the cross-cultural contacts, localization, scientification, and industrialization of food, since the first medieval global era of the 10th century

### **Objectives:**

- 1. To deepen scholarly understanding of senses and their impacts in Eastern Eurasia: The primary objective is to illuminate the value of the multisensory history and food culture and to expand historical and cultural scopes and landscapes in East and Central Asia.
- 2. To find multiple research methods and to foster interdisciplinary collaboration: RCHC at an initial stage of a project "Multisenses and Food" seeks to find new research methods and the possibilities of convergent research for sensory and culinary studies. The conference expects to show example methods for the project. By bringing together scholars specializing in different academic backgrounds, the conference aims to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration.
- 3. To discover everyday life, culture, and political power from the perspectives of "insignificant things": (Multi) Sensory history focuses on changes in bodily experience and emotions, and allows us to understand humans, materials, ecology, society, art, technology, power, and civilizations in depth and in diversity from microscopic viewpoints.
- 4. To build new insights and to promote global knowledge exchange: This conference will build new insights in cultural history in East and Central Asia and develop sensory studies by making academic discussions accessible to an international audience. It aims to set the stage for future collaborative projects, publications, and exhibitions of culinary cultures.
- 5. To highlight the importance of people's cultural and sensory expressions in a new AI era: The daily use of smart phones and social media in the digital and artificial intelligence (AI) era personalizes auditory and visual experiences and dismantles community cultures and knowledges. The conference of "Multisenses and Food" will provide considerable implications for reconsidering the nature of humans and re-building (new) humanity.

By achieving these objectives, the conference will make a substantial contribution to sensory and culinary studies in East Asian history. It will also create a rare opportunity for participants to engage with experts from various disciplines, fostering a deeper appreciation of cross-cultural senses and cuisines in Eastern Eurasia.

Contact: Dr. Seol Paehwan - paehwan@jnu.ac.kr

# MIT postdoc announcement

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Anthropology Program invites applications for a full-time post-doctoral associate in Anthropology who will engage in research activities that help develop the concept of Anthro-engineering, an approach combining frameworks from sociocultural anthropology and engineering. The post-doctoral associate would also organize student travel and events and co-teach a transdisciplinary class. The position will be for 10 months, from August 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026. We are looking for scholars who possess a good command of the Mongolian language and are conversant with the anthropology of contemporary Mongolia. We are particularly interested in research on urban development, political economy, energy, sustainability, air pollution, and health.

Candidates would have experience in ethnographic research, evidence of scholarly productivity, a commitment to undergraduate teaching, and experience in project management. The responsibilities of the post-doc include contributing to our teaching and pedagogical innovation, travelling to Mongolia for approximately three weeks in January with students, supervising students both at MIT and in Mongolia, and helping to plan and organize a symposium in Spring 2026. The opportunity to teach an undergraduate subject may also be possible.

A Ph.D. in sociocultural anthropology is required. Applicants must include the following: (1) CV; (2) Cover letter that outlines research and teaching interests (2-3 pages maximum); and (3) Writing Sample (e.g. journal article, book chapter, or dissertation chapter); and (4) the names and contact information for three references. The deadline for the application is June 5, 2025. Questions should be addressed to search committee chair, Professor Manduhai Buyandelger (manduhai@mit.edu). We expect to begin interviewing candidates by June 10, 2025.

Manduhai Buyandelger, Ph.D.

**Professor of Anthropology** 

E53-335S, 77 Massachusetts Ave

Cambridge MA 02139