



Institut für Asien- und Afrikawissenschaften

Zentralasien-Seminar

Project Workshop

The History of Perestroika in Central Asia: social transformation in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia, 1982-1991

The research project adds to the recent studies of social change in periods of structural crisis. In all post-socialist/post-Soviet countries, a shift from a socialist state economy and communist party rule to the market-orientated model and neo-liberal ideology has been a painful process, which has led to economic decline, stagnation, social marginalisation and polarisation among different population groups. At the beginning of the 1990s, when the re-nationalisation of historical writing commenced in the newly independent states, the very recent Soviet past was either blurred over as a period of social chaos or contrasted as a beginning of national awakening. This project investigates the history of the recent past: it studies the adaptive strategies of social groups in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia during *perestroika*, in a broader socio-cultural context and seeks to explain how the newly introduced ideological trends and cultural ideas impacted on social groups and personalities.

Open Sessions' Programme

Venue: Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Institut für Asien- und Afrikawissenschaften
Invalidenstraße 118, 10115 Berlin, Raum 315 (access from Schlegelstraße 26)

26 September, 18:00-20:00

Chair: Vincent Houben

Presenter: Irina Morozova "*On the causes of socialism's deconstruction: people's perceptions in contemporary Kazakhstan and Mongolia*"

Discussants: Peter van der Veer & Matthias Middell

language: English



28 September, 18:00-20:00

Presenter: Gulnara Aitpaeva *“From Kirgizia to Kyrgyzstan: awaking of traditional spirituality in the years of perestroika”*

Discussant: Ingeborg Baldauf

language: English

4 October, 18:00-20:00

Presenter: Tolganai Umbetalieva *“The Politics of Perestroika in Kazakhstan. People's memories of the 1986 events in Almaty”*

Discussant: Petra Stykow

language: Russian

5 October, 18:00-20:00

Presenter: Jigjidiyn Boldbaatar *“Mongolia at the time of perestroika: major changes in social and political life”*

Discussant: Uta Schöne

language: German/Mongolian (with translations)

Contact:

For more information on the project:

<http://www2.hu-berlin.de/zentralasien/>

For enquiries on the project and workshop:

irina.morozova@asa.hu-berlin.de