

Mongolei-Colloquium

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„Mongols in China and Their Mongolian Studies: Focusing on the Chinese Characters Used to Denote the Mongolian Sound in the *Secret History of the Mongol*“

Mongols are mainly distributed in Mongolia, Russia, as well as in China. There are approximately 6 million people classified as ethnic Mongols living in China. Most of them live in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Northeast China, Xinjiang, Gansu, Qinghai, Yunnan, and Hebei etc. They also live as minorities in other regions of China. Other official ethnic groups in China, which speak Mongolian languages, include Dongxiang, Monguor, Bonan, Daur and some of the Yugurs. Mongols in China still retain their own language and culture, also still using the traditional Mongolian script. However, due to differences in the area of residence, Mongolia in each region also has a large difference in dialects and lifestyle. Most Mongolians in China, except seniors, can speak Chinese and write Chinese characters. Therefore, China's Mongolian studies have the advantage of using Chinese classics. An important source for reconstructing Middle Mongolian is *The Secret History of the Mongols*, which used Chinese characters to transcribe Mongolian sounds. Within *The Secret History of the Mongols*, a highly sophisticated unified system of transcription was reached, wherein usages were consistent, clear and precise. This presentation will focus on investigations of Chinese character spelling rules within *The Secret History of the Mongols*, in order to develop a working understanding of the phonology of 14th Century Chinese Characters, with an eye towards reconstructing Middle Mongolian by parallel means in the future.

Mittwoch, 04. Juli 2018

18:00 Uhr c. t.

Zentralasien-Seminar, 5. Etage, Raum 507

Invalidenstr. 118 10115 Berlin

(U6 Naturkundemuseum, S-Bhf Nordbahnhof)

Gäste sind herzlich willkommen!