

- Use the right hand for gestures. Pass items with both hands or the right (supported by the left under the elbow.)
- Avoid pointing with the index finger.
- In an elder's presence, crossing legs, yawning or making eye contact may be rude.
 - Kicking another person's foot is offensive.

b. Freedom of Religion *"The Constitution provides for the right both to worship and not to worship and explicitly recognizes the separation of church and state. The Government generally respects these provisions in practice.*

Although Mongolia has no official state religion, the Government has contributed to the restoration of several Buddhist sites important as religious, historical, and cultural centers.

Although under the provisions of a 1993 law on relations between church and state, the Government may supervise and limit the numbers of both places of worship and clergy for organized religions, there are no reports that it has done so. Religious groups, however, must register with the Ministry of Justice. Proselytizing is allowed, although a Ministry of Education directive bans the mixing of foreign language or other training with religious teaching or instruction. Contacts with coreligionists outside the country are allowed."

c. Buddhism and the State *"Since at least the early 1970s, one monastery, the Gandan Monastery, with a community of 100 monks, was open in Ulaanbaatar. It was the country's sole functioning monastery. A few of the old monasteries survived as museums, and the Gandan Monastery served as a living museum and a tourist attraction.*



Its monks included a few young men who had undergone a five-year training period, but whose motives and mode of selection were unknown to Western observers.

The party apparently thought that Buddhism no longer posed a challenge to its dominance and that--because Buddhism had played so large a part in the country's

history, traditional arts, and culture, total extirpation of knowledge about the religion and its practices would cut modern Mongols off from much of their past, to the detriment of their national identity. A few aged former monks were employed to translate Tibetan-language handbooks on herbs and traditional medicine. Government spokesmen described the monks of the Gandan Monastery as doing useful work.

Buddhism, furthermore played a role in Mongolia's foreign policy by linking Mongolia with the communist and the noncommunist states of East and Southeast Asia. Ulaanbaatar was the headquarters of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace, which has held conferences for Buddhists from such countries as Japan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan; published a journal for international circulation; and maintained contacts with such groups as the Christian Peace Conference and the Russian Orthodox Church.



It sponsored the visits of the Dalai Lama to Mongolia in 1979 and 1982. The organization, headed by the abbot of the Gandan Monastery, advances the foreign policy goals of the Mongolian government, which are in accord with those of the Soviet Union."



6. Resources for Further Study

a. Cross-cultural resources

Storey, Robert. Lonely Planet Travel Survival Kit--Mongolia. Berkeley, Calif.: Lonely Planet, 1993. AISO--915.173 S884

The best series, by far, of readily accessible travel guides. Don't leave for Mongolia without this text.

**b. Biography, novels, literature,
poetry**



Dawson, Christopher. The Mongol Mission: Narratives and Letters of the Franciscan Missionaries in Mongolia and China in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries. New York: Sheed and Ward, 1955.

⇒ Bosun Library: General DS6.D2

History of the Mongols, by John of Plano Carpini — The narrative of Brother Benedict the Pole — The journey of William of Rubruck — The letters of John of Monte Corvino, Brother Peregrine and Andrew of Perugia.

Heissig, Walter. The Religions of Mongolia. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1980.

⇒ Bosun Library: General BL2370.M7 H47

Discusses Lamaism, Shamanism, and folk religions. Includes a chronological table and a bibliography.

Lamb, Harold. Genghis Khan: The Emperor of all Men. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1956.

⇒ Bosun Library: General CT10.E5 L2

Uses myth and fact to cover the life of Genghis. Includes battle descriptions as we follow Khan on the conquering of an empire.

Marshall, Robert. Storm from the East: From Genghis Khan to Kublai Khan. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993.

⇒ Bosun Library: General DS19.M37 1993

A colorful historical work which reads like a narrative. The book covers the start of a nation, missionary visits, Mongol crusaders, and the fall of an empire.

Onon, Urgunge. Mongolian Heroes of the Twentieth Century. New York: AMS Press, c1976.

⇒ Bosun Library: General CT32.M77

Contains short biographies of six modern heroes. Includes historical, religious, and political background for the early twentieth century and the rise of an independent Mongolia.

Polo, Marco. The Travels of Marco Polo. New York: The Modern Library, [1926].

⇒ Bosun Library: General G370.P7

An easy read for the student interested in this figure and his historical journey to the court of the Great Khan.

Prawdin, Michael. The Mongol Empire: Its Rise and Legacy. Allen and Unwin, [1961, 1940].

⇒ Bosun Library: General DS19.C4

Rachewiltz, Igor de. Papal Envoys to the Great Khans. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1971.

⇒ Bosun Library: General G370.D4

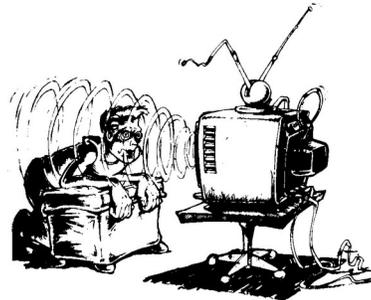
A well-documented little book which covers the journeys of successive missionaries to Mongolia and their times with the Khans. Includes a letter from Kublai Khan to Pope Innocent IV (1246).

Rossabi, Morris. Khublai Khan: His Life and Times. Berkeley: University of California Press, c1988.

⇒ Bosun Library: General CT11.H2 R67 1988

A colorful easy-to-read biography of a charismatic, intelligent, and powerful ruler.

c. News articles



Edwards, Mike. "Lord of the Mongols--Genghis Khan." National Geographic, Dec 1996, p. 2.

Faison, Seth. "Mongolia is Tossing Out 75 Years of Rusty Ideas." New York Times, 1 Oct 1996, p. A4.

After 75 years of Communist rule, Mongolia is privatizing industry and initiating bold government reform.



"Today, more than ever, the world we live in demands moral courage--the strength of character, mastery of fear, and the ability to make hard decisions under stress and pressure--the integrity to do what is right. Moral courage is not something you change into when you rise in the morning. It is not an accessory or part of our uniform; it must be part of the very fabric of our individual character."

General Charles C. Krulak

Vocabulary List: Mongolia

Altan Khan Mongol military leader with ambitions to unite the Mongols and to emulate the career of Chinggis, invited the head of the rising Yellow Sect of Tibetan Buddhism to a summit. They formed an alliance that gave Altan legitimacy and religious sanction for his imperial pretensions and that provided the Buddhist sect with protection and patronage.

Dalai Lama In the 16th century, Mongolian military head Altan gave the Tibetan leader the title of Dalai Lama (Ocean Lama), which his successors still hold. Altan died soon after, but in the next century the Yellow Sect spread throughout Mongolia, aided in part by the efforts of contending Mongol aristocrats to win religious sanction and mass support for their ultimately unsuccessful efforts to unite all Mongols in a single state. Lama comes from a Tibetan title *bla-ma*, meaning "the revered one".

Naadam A Mongolian term referring both to celebrations honoring the Mongolian people's freedom and any festival held throughout the year. History goes back to the 13th century when Marco Polo described a gathering of 10,000 white horses. Mongolian chieftains competed in horse racing, archery, and wrestling; the "three manly games" for a Mongolian.

Tsagaan Sar (ZAH-gahn sahr, Lunar New Year) Mongolian celebration of "white month," marking an important time for traditional family gatherings.

Review Quiz: Unit 12 d--Mongolia



Part 1--Multiple Choice: Place the letter of the most correct answer in the blank provided.

1. _____ The Altan Khan used _____ to help unite Mongolia in 1578.
 - a. fierce horse riding warriors
 - b. Tibetan Buddhism
 - c. shaman magic

2. _____ "Lama" in the Tibetan dialect means
 - a. a type of mountain goat.
 - b. "revered one."
 - c. a type of horse riding boot.

3. _____ The Khalkha Mongols are
 - a. the "nomad's nomads," the most pastoral of all Mongol ethnic groups.
 - b. heavily influenced by Soviet and Chinese thought.
 - c. the smallest of the Mongol ethnic groups.

4. _____ The biggest historical barrier for Chinese settlement in Mongolia was
 - a. rumors of the fierce warrior spirit possessed by Mongolians.
 - b. the Gobi Desert.
 - c. the Great Wall.

5. _____ The three "manly sports" of traditional Mongols include
 - a. horse racing, darts and Soju drinking.
 - b. racing, archery and wrestling.
 - c. saber tossing, soccer and capture the flag.

Part 2--True or False Place a T or
an F in the blank provided.



1. _____ The Mongol language is rich in Buddhist expression and proverb.
2. _____ Mongol culture is relatively uniform over large areas of the country.
3. _____ Traditional Mongolian society bestows a relatively high status upon women.
4. _____ Naadam celebrations in Mongolia honor both freedom and festivals throughout the year.
5. _____ Current Mongolia has no official state religion, though the restoration of Hindu shrines sees it as an important religious expression.

