

PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL ALTAISTIC CONFERENCE

NEWSLETTER

No. 2

March, 1967

The first issue of this Newsletter proved to be such a success that the distribution of this second issue will be much wider. If one can judge by oral comments voiced mainly at our last meeting held in Ravello and by some letters received, our colleagues appreciated the fact that the Newsletter was more up to date than any other scholarly publication dealing with the same field of study. It also seems that our Soviet colleagues felt that the Newsletter brought them information on our activities not to be found elsewhere.

I will try to continue in the line I feel is most appreciated by our colleagues, but once again, I must emphatically state that a newsletter cannot survive if it does not receive news to be inserted. This remark applies particularly to Soviet scholars. For the first time in the history of the PIAC we had the pleasure of the company of a Soviet scholar at our last meeting, although already the Proceedings of the 7th Meeting (Central Asiatic Journal, Vol. X, Nos. 3-4) have contained contributions coming from the USSR. But I have not yet received from the USSR items to be inserted into this Newsletter.

As most of you already know, the 10th meeting of the PIAC will be held in Manchester (England) from the 26th to the 30th of June, 1967. If you wish to attend and have received no invitation, please write to me. The PIAC is not a closed society, and any bona fide scholar is welcome.

Those who are interested in the history of our last meeting will have to wait for the publication of its Proceedings which is in the hands of Professor Bombaci.

I have received several complaints concerning the date of the PIAC meeting. Correspondents pointed out that it would have helped them had it been possible to have our meeting at a date contiguous with that of a congress on Turkish art, to be held in England during this coming summer. I fully agree with this, but the fact remains that it is impossible to find a date that is convenient for every one of us. If it is any consolation, I may reveal that the date of the forthcoming PIAC meeting is very inconvenient for me too. But this cannot be helped.

DENIS SINOR
Secretary General

IN MEMORIAM

Erich Haenisch
(1880-1966)

The death on December 21, 1966, of Professor Erich Haenisch is a severe loss to Far Eastern and Altaic Studies, and has come as a grievous shock to his colleagues and friends. He was one of the representatives of the old generation of scholars in his field, whose numbers are decreasing rapidly. Haenisch combined an excellent knowledge of Chinese with that of Mongolian and Manchu, and made valuable contributions to studies in all three domains. He was a many-sided scholar and published numerous works on various subjects of Sinology, Manchu and Mongolian studies, and even Tibetology.

Haenisch's works on Mongolian and Manchu are of particular value to the Altaicists. He was the first to devote his attention to what is called Sino-Mongolica, i.e., Mongolian texts in Chinese transcription of the XIV century, which are of great importance to language study, not to mention their historical and literary value. Haenisch's work on the Yuan-ch'ao pi-shih (text, dictionary, German translation, and an article on the linguistic features) and Hua-yi yi-yü belong to the most outstanding works in the field of Mongolian philology. Another group of Haenisch's works is devoted to the historical work of Sagang Sechen and include his study of the Chinese version of that work, the transcription of the Manchu text and publication of two rare manuscripts and a xylograph of the same work.

Haenisch's work on Manchu includes his excellent grammar and publication of historical texts and documents and polyglot inscriptions.

Haenisch's great accomplishments in the field of Altaic studies were recognized by all Altaicists, and he became the second recipient, in 1964, of the Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies, awarded by the PIAC.

In conclusion of this short obituary, let it be said that Haenisch was a very pleasant and friendly person much liked and held in high esteem by those who knew him.

Nicholas Poppe

XXVII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ORIENTALISTS

Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA - August 13-19, 1967

I hope that all Altaists are aware of the importance of the forthcoming Congress, and of the fact that the 10th Section of the Congress bears the title:

Central Asian and Altaic Studies including Turcology.

The Section will meet under my Chairmanship, and our activities will be two-fold: (1) As at all previous congresses of this type, individual papers will be read on various topics which have been submitted by participants and accepted by the Organizing Committee; (2) We shall also have two general meetings, devoted to two central themes selected at the 1965 and 1966 PIAC Meetings, as follows -

1. Trade in the Altaic World,
2. Linguistic relations within the Altaic language group.

These meetings will follow the usual pattern of great conventions held in the U.S.A. In response to an invitation, extended prior to the Meeting by the Chairman of the 10th Section, two or three scholars will give their views on these subjects. Following this, one or two scholars (who have also been forewarned by the Chairman) will give their comments on the papers read. The subjects will then be open to general discussion. The principal speakers will be asked by the Chairman of the Section to communicate the texts of their papers to the Commentators in good time to enable them to make a meaningful and well-prepared statement on the views presented. This method ensures that the subjects chosen would be dealt with in an efficient way, minimizing the danger of talking at cross-purposes, and of discussion based on misunderstanding of the theses presented.

Although the second announcement issued by the International Congress requested that abstracts of every paper be received no later than March 1, 1967, it is not too late to send such abstracts to Professor Fifield (Secretary-General, XXVII International Congress of Orientalists, University of Michigan, 48 Lane Hall, Ann Arbor, Michigan). Suggestions for papers to be included in the program of the 10th Section may also be submitted now, although, quite obviously, their inclusion cannot be guaranteed. To expedite matters, please send proposals for papers or announcements of your intention to participate simultaneously, to Professor Fifield and myself (a carbon-copy will do).

I hope the Third Announcement of the Congress has made all of you aware of the fact that extremely cheap transportation has been secured for the benefit of foreign participants. Recognition and thanks are due to the Organizing Committee for their efforts in this matter.

On special chartered aircraft the round-trip flight Paris or

Frankfurt to Detroit will cost only \$70 - the Tokyo-Detroit round-trip ticket will cost \$250. The University of Michigan will provide meals and housing in University dormitories free of charge for visiting foreign scholars during the Congress. Other important benefits, such as a post-Congress tour for foreign scholars, have also been secured.

In the event that you have not yet done so, please register at once, and bear in mind that reservations for the charter flights must be received NO LATER THAN MAY 15.

If you have not yet received the Third Announcement or even the first invitation, please address your inquiries at once to Professor Russell H. Fifield.

These costs, however low, may still be prohibitive for some of our colleagues, particularly those in countries where foreign-currency restrictions exist. To help them, I was able to secure very limited funds which could be used to defray travel expenses. In other words, the PIAC would book and pay for the seats of these colleagues. These tickets are non-transferable. If any member for whom the PIAC has booked a seat does not cancel the reservation before June 15, the seat and the money will have been lost, thereby depriving another of this benefit.

If you wish to take advantage of this PIAC offer please write to me at once. I shall try to ensure that all applications receive fair consideration. Scholars coming from Europe will have higher priority for the simple reason that the Japan-Detroit round-trip costs \$250, whereas the Europe-Detroit round-trip costs only \$70.

For all general information concerning the Congress please address yourselves to the Secretary-General, Professor Fifield. All I can and will do is to reserve a small number of seats on the charter planes, and pay for them. As I cannot make a bulk-payment, I must specify the name of the scholar whose ticket I purchase.

For ten years now the PIAC has endeavored, with measurable success, to secure for Altaic Studies the place in the academic world to which, we think, they are entitled. I cannot sufficiently emphasize the importance of our being well represented at the XXVII Congress.

When we meet in Manchester (June 26-30) it will be too late to discuss matters pertaining to the Congress, so please act now.

DENIS SINOR

INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRIZE FOR ALTAIC STUDIES

1966 Award

It will be remembered that at the 5th Meeting of the PIAC, held in Bloomington in 1962, thanks to the generosity of the host university, an Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies, consisting of a medal, was established. It was then decided that the medal should be awarded annually by the PIAC to a scholar who, in their opinion, has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of Altaic Studies. The prizewinner for each year is chosen by secret ballot from among scholars nominated by an international committee of four.

Recipient of the 1966 medal, Academician Professor Gyula (Julius) Németh, addressed the following letter to the Secretary General:

* * * *

Budapest XI
Karinthy út 24.III.1
November 28, 1966.

Permanent International
Altaistic Conference

Secretary General
Professor Denis Sinor
Bloomington

Verehrter und lieber Herr Generalsekretär!

Mit ausserordentlicher Freude habe ich die Benachrichtigung erhalten, dass die Permanent International Altaistic Conference den Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies for 1966 mir zuerkannt hat. Ihr amtliches Schreiben darüber habe ich jetzt, als ich von einer längeren Studienreise aus Bosnien und Montenegro zurückgekehrt bin, erhalten. Ihre persönliche Gratulation erreichte mich noch kurz vor meiner Abreise. Empfangen Sie dafür meinen wärmsten Dank. Die Medaille ist noch nicht angekommen, aber ich will mit der Danksagung nicht weiter warten.

Ich bitte Sie, Herr Generalsekretär, für diese mir so wohltuende Auszeichnung durch meine nächsten und liebsten Kollegen dem Plenum der Permanent International Altaistic Conference den Ausdruck meines wärmsten Dankes gelegentlich zu

Übermitteln. Sie wird mich auch in meinem hohen Alter zur weiteren Arbeit anspornen.

Mit den herzlichsten Grüßen,
gleichzeitig mit den besten Wünschen für das neue Jahr verbleibe ich

Ihr ergebener
J. Németh

* * * *

Through the courtesy of the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, the medal has since reached Professor Németh.

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On the 27th of October, 1966, our colleague the eminent Turcologist, corresponding member of the Akademija Nauk SSSR, Andrej Nikolajevič Kononov, celebrated his sixtieth birthday.

The Secretary General of the PIAC felt it fitting to join the rank of well-wishers and, on Departmental stationery, sent to Professor Kononov the following letter:

Dear Professor Kononov,

Please allow me, in the name of all my collaborators and of myself, to wish you all the best for your sixtieth birthday.

May you be granted many years of successful and happy work for the benefit of all of us.

Though there is no time now to circularize all members of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference, as their Secretary General, I feel authorized to convey to you all their good wishes. Many happy returns.

Professor Denis Sinor
Chairman

The following reply was received:

Ленинград, 21.XI.66.

Профессору Денису Синору
Глубокоуважаемый коллега,

Примите мою сердечную признательность за Ваше любезное поздравление, направленное мне ко дню шестидесятилетия

Искренне уважающий Вас
А. Кононов

Professor Karl Jahn writes from Holland:

Die bereits in meinen früheren "Confessionen" erwähnten Werke meiner Schüler N. H. Biegan und H. F. Hofman sind im Druck und werden noch heuer erscheinen.

Ein englisches Resumé der Studie A. H. Nauta's "Knappe phonologische Übersicht der wichtigsten alttürkischen Inschriften" (holländisch) wird druckfertig gemacht. Die Dialektstudien, die meine Schüler A. H. Nauta und A. H. de Groot bei den türkischen Gastarbeitern hierzulande trieben, gehen ihrem Ende entgegen und sollen nach Abschluss im wesentlichen veröffentlicht werden. Selbst bin ich mit der Edition, Übersetzung und Kommentierung der "Oghuzen-Geschichte des Raschid al-Din" beschäftigt und musste daher vorläufig alle anderen Arbeiten zurückstellen.

Die europäische Ausgabe des "Handbook of Turkish Culture" hat nun endgültig die Firma Mouton and Co., (Den Haag) übernommen und soll demnächst mit dem Druck begonnen werden. - Ein Memorial Volume anlässlich des 650. Todestages Raschid al-Din's soll 1968 unter der Redaktion J. A. Boyle's und K. Jahn's erscheinen. Die PIAC-Mitglieder werden sehr gebeten, event. Beiträge bis spätestens Januar 1968 einzusenden. Eventuelle weitere Mitteilungen behalte ich mir bis zum PIAC-Meeting in Manchester vor.

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The Proceedings of the VII Meeting of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference, August 23 - September 3, 1964, edited by Karl Jahn and Denis Sinor have, somewhat belatedly, been published last summer. The Proceedings form Nos. 3-4 of Vol. X, December 1965 of the Central Asiatic Journal, edited by Professor Karl Jahn.

He deserves our gratitude for this finely produced volume which contains a short description of the 7th Meeting and thirteen articles centered on the theme "The horse in the Altaic world."

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Nobuo Yamada (Japan)

The Present Situation of Altaic Studies in Japan

I Research Institutes

- 1) The Institute of Inland Asian Studies (Haneda Tôru Memorial Hall), Kyoto University

Established: April, 1966

Research Departments (in the planning stage):

A. North and Central Asia

(1) History of North and Central Asia

(2) Altaic Languages

B. West Asia

Publications: Wu-t'i Ch'ing-wên-Chien, Translated and Explained, 2 volumes.

- 2) The Institute of Eurasian Cultural Studies, Hokkaido University

Established: July, 1964 (The predecessor - Seminars of Northern Culture Studies)

Research Departments:

(1) Archaeology, Anthropology

(2) Linguistics, Literature

(3) History, Geography

(4) Sociology, Psychology

(5) Political Science, Economics

(6) Philosophy, Psychology

Publications: Bulletin of the Institute of Eurasian Cultural Studies, No. 2, (forthcoming publication).

- 3) Institute for the Study of Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

Established: April, 1963

Research Departments: (The Institute has seven research departments, of which the following relate to Altaic Studies) -

A. East Asia

(1) Northeast Asian Languages and Cultures - Korean, Tunguz, Gilyak, Ainu, etc. -

B. North and Central Asia

(1) Mongolian languages and cultures - Mongolian (literary Mongolian, Khalkha-dialect, Buriat-dialect, etc.) -

(2) Tibetan languages and cultures - Tibetan (Modern Tibetan, Literary Tibetan, etc.) -

(3) Turco-Uralic languages and cultures - Turkic and Uralic (Finnish, Hungarian, etc.) -

II Academic Conferences

1) Junior Altaists' Meeting in Japan (Nojiri-Lake Quriltai)
- the 3rd meeting -

Date: July 10-14, 1966

Attendance: 50 persons, including 4 foreigners

Program:

- 1) Confessions
- 2) The situation of Altaic Studies and materials preserved in foreign countries
 - (a) Egami (Namio) "Report on horse-riding peoples and their culture in Ancient Iran"
 - (b) Tokunaga (Yasumoto) "The State of Altaic Studies in Hungary"
 - (c) Mori (Masao) "The State of Altaic Studies in Leningrad"
 - (d) Jagchid (Sechin) "The State of Altaic Studies in Taiwan"
 - (e) Choe (Hac-Kun) "The State of Altaic Studies in Korea"
- 3) Presentation of papers on subjects studied
 - (a) Mano (Eiji) "On the Groups of Nomadic People in Moghulistan"
 - (b) Wakamatsu (Hiroshi) "A historical study of the reception of Lamaism by the Kalmuck"
 - (c) Kawachi (Yoshihiro) "Measurement of Patriarchal Power in the Jurchen Society of the Ming dynasty"
 - (d) Oda (Juten) "A study of the Uighur manuscript of the Buddhist sūtra, Säkiz yŭkmäk"
 - (e) Koyama (Kōichiro) "On the Oghuz legend in 'Rashid'"
 - (f) Yajima (Hikoichi) "Ibn Fadlân's book on his visit to the Volga-Bulgars"
- 4) Discussion on the matters presented

2) Conference of Junior Altaists on International Cooperation for Manchu and Mongol Studies in the Far East

Date: July 4-9, 1966

Attendance: 15 persons (10 Japanese, 2 Korean, 3 Chinese)

Topics:

- A. Reports on the present state of Altaic Studies and materials preserved in each country.

B. Discussion of possible joint projects by international scholars.

Reports:

- (1) "The present state of Manchu and Mongol Studies in Japan - A part of History" by Hagiwara (Junpei)
- (2) "Japanese Research on Manchu-Tunguz and Mongol" by Ikegami (Jiro)
- (3) "Japanese Achievements on Ethnological Studies of Altaic Peoples" by Saguchi (Tôru)
- (4) "Altaic Studies and the Study of the Neighboring Peoples" by Sato (Hisashi)
- (5) "Report on Manchu and Mongol Studies in Korea" by Choe (Hak-kun)
- (6) "Report on Manchu and Mongol Studies in the Republic of China" by Jagchid (Sechin)

Future Projects:

The East Asian Altaistic Conference established at the meeting of last July has decided to take up the following projects which are expected to be carried out in close international cooperation of three countries:

- A. Compilation of a select bibliography of books and articles on Altaic studies published in the three countries;
- B. Compilation of an Altaistic Lexicon which contains entries pertaining to ethno-historical subjects.

3) The Society for the study of Inner Asian History

Annual Meeting: November 9-10, at Sendai

Symposium: "Characters of Kingdoms of Bordering Peoples"

4) Circle of Study in Ethnology of North Asia

Publication: Studies in Ethnology of North Asia, No. 3 (forthcoming publication).

5) The Society for the Study of Northern Languages.

News from the University of Leeds

Professor Owen Lattimore spent the month of July, 1966, in Mongolia working at the National Library on unpublished material on the "autonomous period in Mongolia (1911-1921)". He also travelled in the eastern part of the country, in the Kerulen-Onon region, going as far as Choibalsang. He was followed by Mr. Urgunge Onon who spent the month of August in Mongolia. He collected material for a book of biographical sketches of early Mongol revolutionary leaders, and also travelled in the Onon valley, which, as his name indicates, is by clan tradition the home of his ancestors.

Professor Lattimore and Mr. Onon are also working on about twenty brief biographical notices of Mongols to be published in France in an encyclopaedic biographical dictionary of world leaders of left-wing and labour movements of the twentieth century.

Professor and Mrs. Lattimore are preparing for publication the political and autobiographical memoirs of the late Dilowa Hutukhtu. These consist of two kinds of material. One is his political account of Mongolia from 1911 to 1931, when he went into exile. This was written out in his own hand, and will be published in photographic reproduction, because of its linguistic interest, accompanied by a translation. The other is his autobiography, which is a remarkable document. It was composed for the edification of Professor Lattimore's son, whom the Hutukhtu regarded as his god-son. It was composed in a number of sessions, in the following manner: the Hutukhtu spoke in Mongol, Professor Lattimore gave a rapid rendering in English, and while David Lattimore was writing this down, the Hutukhtu would go on with the next paragraph or two in Mongol. The Hutukhtu was a man of great learning and considerable worldly wisdom, but he never learned more than a few words of English, and while he was in many ways shrewd and worldly wise, his outlook on the world was essentially that of a mediaeval prelate. His narrative is the unique revelation of a personality speaking to us in this age with the accents of another age.

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The Society for the Preservation of Kalmyk Culture has now published its second volume in the Kalmyk Monograph Series, a two hundred and twenty-eight page work in Russian, German and English. It has twelve articles on anthropology, linguistics, history and biography. A prospectus may be secured from The Mongolia Society. Price - \$5.

The Mongolia Society
P.O. Box 606
Bloomington
Indiana 47401
U. S. A.

News from the Department of Uralic and Altaic Studies
of
Indiana University

A concentrated program of study focusing on the Central Asian Republics of the USSR and on the Mongolian People's Republic will be offered in the Department from June 20 to August 10, 1967. John R. Krueger and John G. Hangin will offer courses in elementary and advanced Mongolian, Ilse Cirtautas will teach Uzbek. Denis Sinor will teach a course on the history of Central Asia and one on Altaic Peoples which will concentrate on their present political and administrative set-up.

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Professor Gustav Bayerle has joined the Department in the Fall of 1966. He received his Ph.D. at Columbia University where he was a pupil of Professor Halasi-Kun. His thesis "The detailed register of the district of Novigrad of 1570" is a critical edition of an Ottoman register and will be published by the American Research Institute in Turkey.

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Harold Ronald Battersby, a Ph.D. student in the Department, has just published on pp. 65-141 of Reşid Rahmeti Arat İçin, an article entitled "Arabic and Persian Elements in Ottoman Turkish".

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Recent A.M. Theses (Magister) accepted by the Department of Uralic and Altaic Studies of Indiana University include:

David C. Montgomery: "Some lexical features of the modern Mongolian newspaper language".

Lászlo Szimonisz: "An historical presentation and analysis of the emergence of Seljuk power".

Larry W. Moses: "The battle of Nomonkhan-Khalkin gol".

Montgomery and Szimonisz are now spending a year in Turkey. An article based on Moses' thesis will appear in the forthcoming first issue of the Journal of Asian History, published by Otto Harrassowitz (Wiesbaden).

* * * *

Miss Marian McKellar and Denis Sinor have translated René Grousset's Le conquérant du monde. The translation published in the U.S.A. by Grossman Publishers of New York, and by Oliver and Boyd in Edinburgh, appeared under the title Conqueror of the world. It contains a preface by Denis Sinor, who also compiled and included in the book an annotated bibliography of works pertaining to the study of 13th-15th century Mongol history. The translation does not follow verbatim Grousset's text. At some points it was brought up to date and existing English translations of original sources were incorporated into the narrative. As most of us would agree, Grousset's biography of the great conqueror has been the most evocative of all. The English translation should be of help to students as well as to non-specialist teachers of the period.

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NEW VOLUMES IN THE
INDIANA UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS
URALIC AND ALTAIC SERIES

The reprinting of the Keleti Szemle / Revue Orientale has continued. To date, the first eight volumes are again available of this valuable periodical.

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Volume 60 is János Eckmann's Chagatay Manual (340 pp.). In it, a short introduction is followed by a grammatical description, a reader, glossary and bibliography.

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LATEST NEWS ITEM!

Professor İlhan Başgöz, of the Department of Uralic and Altaic Studies, has been awarded a Social Science Research Grant for the period from June 1 to August 31, 1967. This award will enable him to conduct research in Turkey, Persia and Iraq on rain-making rituals among Turkic-speaking peoples.

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Mrs. M. L. Esin

has asked us to reproduce the following report. Although the deadlines have passed, we do so with great pleasure in order to give wider publicity to the Handbook of Turkish Culture.

* * *

Report to the Editors and Contributors of
The Handbook of Turkish Culture

During the meeting of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference (PIAC) at Ravello, on September 27th, 1966, the Chairman of the international committee and of the executive and editorial committee of the Handbook of Turkish Culture, Professor Z. V. Togan, described the work for the Handbook in the past year and requested the support and interest of PIAC in the Handbook.

The secretary of the executive and editorial committee and co-editor of the sub-section on pre-Islamic art of the Handbook, Mrs. E. Esin, provided information on the work of the sub-section on pre-Islamic Turkish art. Interest was manifested by certain members of the Conference, and a meeting of interested scholars was called on September 28th by Professor Togan, to discuss the further development of the Handbook of Turkish Culture. This meeting was attended by the following persons: Mrs. E. Esin and Professors J. A. Boyle, N. Egami, T. Gandjei, K. Jahn, B. Ögel, O. Pritsak, and D. Sinor, Secretary General of PIAC. The host of the PIAC Meeting, Professor A. Bombaci, who is a contributor to both the literary section and to the sub-section on Islamic art, was, unfortunately, absent due to illness. Professor Zajaczkowski and Mr. Tryjarski, who kindly promised to contribute, could not be present at the Meeting.

The following matters were deliberated:

I - It was suggested to divide into two independent sections the former Vol. VII of the Handbook which had been conjointly devoted to the history of science and to the history of literature.

II - Some scholars (Boyle, Gandjei, Sinor) agreed to contribute to various sections of the Handbook whose editors were not present at the 1966 PIAC Meeting. Professor Togan and Mrs. Esin undertook to share the task of informing these editors of the promised contributions, and also to inform them of the interest shown and the enquiries made by possible future contributors to their sections of the Handbook.

III - Some new contributions were promised to the section on cultural history. The names of the new contributors have been added to the attached revised version of the working-plan of the historical section. It was also decided to request the contributions of other scholars, to whom Professor Togan will write.

IV - Some new contributions were promised to the sub-section on pre-Islamic art. The names of the new contributors have been added to a considerably revised version of the working-plan of the sub-section on pre-Islamic art. It was also decided to request the contributions of other scholars, to whom Mrs. Esin will write.

V - It was observed that the progress of the historical section and of the sub-section on art had reached a stage where the editors could envisage the publication of some fascicules containing contributions to the first introductory volume, which will consist only of abstracts, bibliography, some maps, and illustrations. It is hoped to publish these fascicules in time for presentation at the XXVIIth International Congress of Orientalists, to be held at the University of Michigan, August 13-19, 1967.

For this purpose, it was decided to beg the utmost degree of kind collaboration from the contributors to the historical section and to the sub-section on pre-Islamic art. It is fervently hoped that they will be good enough to send double copies (for Turkish and non-Turkish editions) of

- 1) a synopsis of their contribution
- 2) a bibliography
- 3) some maps (historical section) or illustrations (sub-section of pre-Islamic art)

before the middle of December, 1966; if translations are required, before the end of November, 1966. The contributions must be air-mailed to the following address:

Mrs. Emel Esin
Sâdullah Paşa yalısı
Cengelköy
Istanbul
TURKEY

Mrs. Esin will barely have time to put the contributions in the planned order and to effect translations when necessary, since she must dispatch the contributions before the end of December, 1966, to

- 1) The Turkish Ministry of National Education, who will publish the Turkish edition, and
- 2) Professor Jahn, chief-editor of the non-Turkish edition.

Professor Jahn stated that he must be in possession of the material to be published by the end of December 1966 at the latest, if it is to appear in time for the meeting of the XXVIIth Congress of Orientalists. The contributions which do not reach Professor Jahn by the end of December, 1966, can only be published subsequently. The volumes containing detailed articles will be published when the majority of the detailed articles are terminated.

A. Rona-Tas (Budapest)

Report on Fieldwork in the Chuvash Autonomous Republic

In the autumn of 1965 I worked for several weeks in Moscow with Chuvash informants. Toward the end of September I left to do fieldwork in the Chuvash Autonomous Republic. The aim of my journey was to collect on-the-spot material for phonological, lexicographic, and dialectal purposes. Since I was especially interested in Chuvash-Mongolian, Chuvash-Turkish, and Chuvash-Hungarian parallels, I directed my work toward these features.

My Chuvash fieldwork was not the first done by a Hungarian. If we do not consider the famous journey of Father Julianus to Magna Bulgaria in the 13th century, only five scholars can be mentioned who collected Chuvash material in the field: A. Reguly, 1843, 1845; A. Desko, 1848-1854; B. Munkácsi, 1885; J. Mészáros, 1906-1907; and J. Németh, 1913.

I arrived in Cheboksary, the capital of the republic, together with a young Chuvash-born linguist, A. A. Alekseev, with whom I had already worked in Moscow. In Cheboksary I was received by Chuvash colleagues working at the University and the Chuvash Scientific Research Institute. During my stay in the Chuvash Autonomous Republic my work was supported with great generosity by the official institutions and my colleagues.

I had the opportunity to see several times Professor Egorov, the Nestor of Chuvash Studies, who celebrated his 85th birthday early in 1965. His recently published etymological dictionary of the Chuvash language is a milestone, not only for Chuvash, but also for Altaic studies in general.

My Chuvash colleagues are mainly interested in the following major projects: a grammar of the modern Chuvash literary language, a dialectal atlas and vocabulary, a Russian-Chuvash dictionary, and a bibliography. All these works are in advanced stages, and some are already ready for publication.

In Cheboksary I had access to the rich Archives of the Institute, where I found among other things, the original materials for Ašmarin's famous Thesaurus, and also many unpublished collections of folklore and dialectology.

My fieldwork was mainly concentrated upon the Virjal dialect. I visited the territory near the village of Rikka and the county-center of Morgaush. For purposes of control I also collected Anatri texts, among them the entire text of Ivanov's well-known epical work, the Narspi. Altogether, I have been able to collect on tape texts containing about 3,200 lines. In addition to this, I collected a small Virjal vocabulary of about 1,500 words, and also materials for a Virjal morphology. My friend and colleague, L. Vikár, an ethnomusicologist, recorded in 1964 a collection of Chuvash folksongs,

mainly from the Virjal territory. These texts I have rechecked, and we hope to publish our materials together. Since the material of Paasonen is from Anatri - with some words of his glossary from a dialect of south Virjal - I hope that my material will complete our knowledge of this important Turkish language.

For more details consult the Bulletin of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (Magyar Tudományos Akadémia I. Osztálya Közleményei XXIII, 1966, pp. 325-334.).

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The Mongolia Society (P.O. Box 606, Bloomington, Indiana) now has an active membership of over one hundred and twenty-five scholars and students, and more than fifty libraries and institutions also receive its publications. Just released by the Society is its BULLETIN (vol. IV, No. 2 for Fall 1965, published 1966), and the 1966 issue (Bulletin, vol. V for 1966) is under way, as is the 1967 issue.

The newest publication of The Mongolia Society is its fourth Occasional Paper, "Mongolian Folktales, Stories and Proverbs in English Translation", eighty-eight pages, paper cover, price \$3. Among other recent works are their packet "Maps of Mongolia" (Muller's 1939 map in four large sheets plus four others, \$5.), and I. Kh. Ovdienko's book, "Economic-Geographical Sketch of the Mongolian People's Republic", with many maps, graphs and charts and a fold-out map at the end (price \$4.). For further information on membership, address the Society.

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