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February 1990

**PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL ALTAISTIC  
CONFERENCE  
(P.I.A.C.)**

**NEWSLETTER**



*Permanent International Altaistic Conference  
Goodbody Hall 101  
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405*

February 1990

In my editorial to the last issue of this Newsletter (No.18, June 1989) I spoke of the marvellous improvement in scholarly communications resulting of the momentous transformations taking place in the Soviet Union and in China. "If" - so I wrote - "limitations on free movement have not altogether disappeared, there is reasonable hope for further improvement." And I concluded: "With some luck - or is this too much to ask? - in a few years, progress may lead us to a situation which was considered normal at the beginning of this century."

My cautious optimism was swept away in the torrential political events of the last few months. Who would have thought in June 1989 that within six months, as if the trumpets of Jericho had sounded again, the walls enclosing some European peoples would come tumbling down?

It is not for the PIAC to judge the merits or demerits of recent changes in what we used to call the socialist states of Europe. Unavoidably, all upheavals of such magnitude have their dark sides but one aspect of these changes, namely the freedom to travel, should be welcome by all interested in the development of research and scholarship. With its extremely modest means, the PIAC has always endeavored to build bridges between scholars working in countries with differing political systems. With headquarters in the USA, we had meetings in the German Democratic Republic (1969, 1988), in Hungary (1971), in the Soviet Union (1986). The, relatively speaking, erratic participation by colleagues from the socialist countries has never been rooted in their objections to the PIAC - as shown by their presence in 1969, 1971, 1986, and 1988 - but was the result of the more or less restrictive travel policies of their own countries. Specifically, I very much hope for and expect an increased participation in our work by colleagues from Czechoslovakia, Roumania and Bulgaria.

It is a commonplace to say that, if it is to thrive, scholarship must transcend borders. Research must go on unhampered by borders or ideologies because the advancement of knowledge depends on such freedom. From its inception, the very aim of the PIAC was to facilitate the unhindered exchange of knowledge between men and women of related interests. It is safe to say that events of the last few months have removed the principal barrier hampering such endeavors. Let us hope that we can take full advantage of this altered situation.

Denis Sinor  
Secretary General

WOLFRAM EBERHARD  
(1909-1989)

On August 15, 1989 Professor Wolfram Eberhard died following a long illness. Professor Eberhard's links with the PIAC were tenuous. He probably attended only one or two of our meetings but regularly informed us that he wished to remain on our mailing list.

Although his main interest was focused on China, his contribution to Inner Asian studies is most significant. Of his relevant publications one could mention "Chronologische Übersicht über die Geschichte der Hunnen von der späteren Han-Zeit (25 n.Chr. -220 n.Chr.) Türk Tarih Kurumu Belleten IV, 1940, 387-425; Das Toba-Reich Nordchinas. Eine soziologische Untersuchung, (Leiden 1949) and - first and foremost - his two magnificent volumes Kultur und Randvölker Chinas (Leiden, 1942), and Lokalkulturen im alten China (Leiden, 1942), both published as supplementary volumes to the T'oung Pao, edited by Paul Pelliot who - in those difficult years of World War II - wished to have no contacts with Germans. On my enquiring about why he made an exception with Professor Eberhard, he revealed to me his respect for this man's very courageous opposition to Hitler.

In the late 1960s Professor Eberhard approached me with a project. He had considerably enlarged the data-base of his Randvölker and suggested that, if the Asian Studies Research Institute of Indiana University, of which I was then the director, would finance the preparation of an enlarged card-catalogue (those were pre-computer times) he would be happy to have it kept in Bloomington. He was worried that the vandals disguised as students, who at that time roamed Berkeley, might destroy this valuable material. As it turned out, the additional data collected by Professor Eberhard were not very significant - a compliment to the thoroughness of the original Randvölker - but these cards do contain some supplementary material. They can be consulted in the Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies (successor of the Asian Studies Research Institute). The official name of the collection is "Chinese Frontier Tribes Data." There are 3254 cards on North and Western, and 1550 cards on South China Frontier tribes.

Sometime in the late 1970s, in Taipei, I had the privilege of spending some days with Professor Eberhard. I cherish the memory of our long conversations. His vast knowledge notwithstanding, he was a man of genuine modesty with impeccable manners: those of a true gentleman.

Denis Sinor

OWEN LATTIMORE  
(1900-1989)

Owen Lattimore had a long and fascinating life. His research and his other activities transcended those of the PIAC and his celebrity was due more to his courageous and sometimes highly provocative political stances than to his scholarly work. In the United States, to his death, he remained a highly controversial public figure. Yet, in many ways, he was a pioneer in scholarship; his massive Inner Asian Frontiers of China (first published in 1940) did much to define and to make known to a wider circle - scholarly as well as popular - the very concept of Inner Asia. This was a seminal work; half a century after its publication, it is still valid in its essential statement.

Lattimore, a splendid lecturer, a fascinating conversationalist, attended many of our meetings; in 1974 he was awarded the Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies (PIAC Medal).

D.S.

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THIRTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE PIAC

The Thirty-Second Meeting of the PIAC was held in Oslo, Norway, June 12-16, under the presidency of Professor Bernt Brendemoen, under the joint sponsorship of the Norwegian Research Council for Science and the Humanities, the Institute for Comparative Research in Human Culture, and the University of Oslo.

The Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies (the so-called PIAC Medal) was awarded to Professor Johannes Benzing, formerly of the University of Mainz, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Altaic linguistics.

Professor A.N.Baskakov, a stalwart supporter of the PIAC and one of its gold-medalists (1980) was unable to attend but sent an anthem of which he had composed both the words and the music (with the appropriate tempo marking: Andante maestoso). Courageous attempts by the participants to actually sing the anthem faltered; clearly, not all PIAC members have the musical talent of Professor Baskakov. However, all present expressed their joy and their appreciation of this lovely gesture. The text and the music of the anthem are reproduced elsewhere in this Newsletter.

## PIAC PROCEEDINGS

Edited by Klaus Sagaster in collaboration with Helmut Eimer, the PROCEEDINGS OF THE 27th MEETING OF THE PIAC were published under the title Religious and Lay Symbolism in the Altaic World and Other Papers, Asiatische Forschungen Bd.105, Wiesbaden, Otto Harrassowitz, 1989. XVII+450 pp. ISBN 0571-320X

In the list of PIAC Proceedings given in No.18 of this Newsletter it was mistakenly stated that the Proceedings of the 16th meeting held in Ankara in 1973 had not been published. Professor Ahmet Temir, president of that meeting, has now kindly informed the Secretary General that these proceedings were published under the title Milletlerarasi Altaistik Kongresi (21-26.x.1973 Ankara) - Permanent International Altaistic Conference - XVith Meeting, Türk Kültürü Arastirma Enstitüsü Yayinlari: 51, (Ankara 1979).

The omission is regretted but copy of this volume has reached the PIAC, by courtesy of Professor Temir, only in October 1989.

### TURKISH PAPERS READ AT THE 29th PIAC

Papers read by our Turkish colleagues at the 29th Meeting held in Tashkent in 1986 were printed in volume 1986 (appeared 1988) of the Türk Dili Arastirmalari Yilligi Belleten published by the Türk Dil Kurumu. Besides the preface and some speeches, it contains eight articles written in Turkish accompanied by a translation into either English, French, or German.

### 33rd INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ASIAN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES

The 33RD International Congress of Asian and North African Studies (ICANAS), better known as the International Congress of Orientalists, will meet on the campus of the University of Toronto, August 19-25, 1990.

The regional program sections (traditional and modern) include one focused on "Central Asia and Tibet", one on "Iranian Studies," and one on "Turkish Studies." It would appear that the first of these may present the greatest interest for members of the PIAC. It is to be hoped that with our presence at this important meeting we will show that Altaic studies are an integral part of Oriental Studies.

For further information concerning the Congress please write to: 33 ICANAS, Dr. A.Harrak, Secretary General, Victoria College, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1K7, Canada. Telefax: (416)-585-4584.

UNESCO MAJOR PROJECT: INTEGRAL STUDY OF THE  
SILK ROADS

The 24th General Conference of UNESCO held in Paris in November 1987 passed a resolution which resulted in the launching of a Major Project entitled "Integral Study of the Silk Roads: Roads of Dialogue." It would appear that this project may be of uncommon interest to the PIAC membership and, therefore, some relevant information given here is taken, mostly verbatim, from various UNESCO documents obligingly put at our disposal by Mr. Doudou Diene, coordinator of the project. What follows is only a short summation of this material, with particular reference to such aspects that may be of special interest to PIAC members.

The aim of the project is to make people living in the present day aware of the need for a renewed dialogue among themselves, and to help them rediscover the historical record of human understanding and communication which provided a mutual enrichment for the different civilizations along these roads. Numerous studies have been made, by scholars acting individually or with academic institutions, of these great arteries for cultural exchange. However, to this day there exists no complete study of these routes; i.e. no study of an interdisciplinary nature has been carried out by an international team.

The project has two dimensions:

A. A series of interdisciplinary seminars complemented by national seminars and meetings which would make a noteworthy contribution to present-day research and intercultural studies.

B. Three expeditions to be made along the main silk roads will provide the opportunity to produce documentary films, publications, and to organize exhibitions. They will also provide occasions to launch new field studies. All these activities will closely involve the media, and will aim at heightening public awareness.

These two phases will be implemented simultaneously and will be complementary. Apart from the specific objectives of each phase, the activities foreseen will contribute to stimulating in-depth studies and research in the areas concerned. Similarly, they will represent a source of new ideas and specialized information to be brought to the attention of the public at large in whatever way is considered most appropriate and effective.

The aforementioned three **expeditions** will explore, respectively, the Steppe, the Maritime, and the Desert Route.

The project also envisages the organization of some fifteen seminars which should provide the opportunity for experts to draw up syntheses covering present-day research pertaining to the theme of the silk roads. These seminars will normally take place during the three main expeditions, but, exceptionally, a few seminars may be held in between expeditions, up to the closing of the Project in 1993. The international seminars should cover a large number of subjects which are essential in understanding the importance of the part played by the silk roads in the history of mankind. Some of the main subjects to be covered are: history of religions, philosophy, philology; archaeology and history of art; history of science and technology; history of trade; history of music, dance and literature; life styles, popular art.

Wide press coverage is foreseen not only during the three main expeditions, but also during other activities such as the seminars and exhibitions. A television team, working under the responsibility of UNESCO will accompany the specialists during the expeditions. A system for world co-production of documentary films will be set up under the auspices of UNESCO.

The research work undertaken and the conclusions of the Integral Study as a whole will be made known to the public, in the most appropriate form. It is foreseen to produce publications of different levels as well as different types of educational material. Also, a considerable number of both national and international exhibitions will be organized throughout the Project.

The Project will be carried out in close collaboration with major national and local museums, major scientific institutions, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations.

Linked with the Major Project are the Associated Projects. These, of high academic quality, should, of course, have a direct bearing on the major core project and must provide opportunities for international cooperation. It is in the nature of every UNESCO project to seek collaboration with as many countries and institutions as possible. The Associated Projects should contribute to the furthering of mutual knowledge between divers peoples and regions.

It is noteworthy, and regrettable, that the question of languages seems so far to have escaped the attention of the various committees engaged in dealing with the Major Project. It stands to reason that on the Silk Road, as elsewhere, language was the essential means of communication. At present steps are taken to include the PIAC in the list of non-governmental organizations collaborating with the Major Project.

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE MONGOLS

To celebrate the 750th anniversary of the writing of the Secret History of the Mongols, the Academy of Sciences of the Mongolian People's Republic together with the International Association for Mongol Studies is organizing an international conference to be held in Ulanbator, August 14-19, 1990.

For further information contact: Ch.Dogsuren, Secretary of the Organizing Committee, Sukhe Bator square 3, Ulan Bator, MPR. Telex: Erdem 305.

### MARCO POLO CONFERENCE

The THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARCO POLO AND HIS BOOK: CHINA AND EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE AGES will be held June 4-6, 1990, at the Ateneo Veneto, Campo San Fantin, Venice, Italy.

Papers on Marco Polo in history and legend, cultural transmission between East and West, and comparative history are invited.

For further information and the submission of proposals write to Professor W.R.Jones, Department of History, Horton Social Science Center, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire 03824, USA.

The Abstracts of the Second International Conference, held in 1989, were published, and may be obtained from Professor Jones.

### INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANICHAEAN STUDIES

The International Association of Manichaeian Studies was founded at the Second International Conference of Manichaeian Studies held in Bonn-St.Augustin, August 6-10, 1989. It is a non-profit scholarly organization whose primary aim is the promotion of the study of Manichaeism in all its aspects.

The International Association of Manichaeian Studies publishes the Manichaeian Studies Newsletter of which three issues (1989, 1,2,3) has so far reached the PIAC. Correspondence concerning this Newsletter should be addressed to the Editor: Alois Van Tongerloo, P.B.97, B-3000 Leuven 3, Belgium.

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MONGOL STUDIES

The third issue of the Bulletin of the IAMS (1989,1) appeared. Among other items of interests it contains reminiscences of participants on the First International Congress of Mongolists (1959) and a Biobibliographical File of Mongolists active in the German Democratic Republic.

The Secretariat of the IAMS has a new mailing address: Central P.O.B. 941, Ulanbaatar 11.

## TULIP TURKISH LINGUISTICS POST

Turkish Linguistics Post - TULIP - is a new publication aimed at giving first-hand, informal information about ongoing research in the field of modern Turkish and Turkic linguistics. TULIP - according to its publisher - will try to bridge the intervals between the Turkish Linguistics Conferences by offering opportunities to give news about projects, publications, meetings, etc. It is not a journal, nor a periodic publication in the usual meaning of the word, but rather an informal circular sent from colleague to colleague on a personal basis and at irregular intervals. It is distributed free of charge and is not for sale.

The first issue - with a very rich material - reached the PIAC in August 1989. For more information please contact Professor Dr. Lars Johanson, Seminar für Orientkunde, Universität Mainz. Postfach 3980, D-6500 Mainz, German Federal Republic.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF TURCOLOGY

The publication of the Proceedings of this Congress held in Istanbul in 1985 has now been completed. It carries the title Besinci Milletler Arasi Türkoloji Kongresi and was published in six volumes by the Istanbul Üniversitesi Edebiyat Fakültesi.

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# Танго ПИАК-а

Посвящается Сессии ПИАК-а в Осло '89.

Слова и музыка  
Н. А. Баскакова  
Op. 4, № 3.

*Andante maestoso*

Ва-са-ко-го Ар-ма-ри-го-ра

*mf cresc. dim p*

Тра-го-ди-на и ру-би-нок

*molto espress*

Ар-май-ских всех на-ро-гов ста-ра

*f*

осъ-е ги-ня-ет шесть пле-мен

*rit.*

22 мая 1989

*Н. А. Баскаков*

## Г и м н П и А К - а

1. Высокого Алтая горы -  
Прародина и рубикон.  
Алтайских всех народов сборы  
Объединяют шесть племен:
2. Монголов, тунгусов, корейцев  
И турков всех воочию,  
Маньчжуров дальних и японцев  
В одну Алтайскую семью.
3. Не все согласны алтаисты  
С Алтайской теорией,  
Есть ортодоксы, скептицисты,  
Ностратики с фантазией.
4. Швед Стралленберг, наш узник плена,  
Шотт, Немет, Винклер и Рамстедт,  
Труды и Грюнцеля, Кастрена -  
Алтаистический септет.
5. Бомбачи, Лигети, Минорский,  
Владимирцов и Рясянен,  
Санжеев, Котвич, Зайончковский,  
Дени, Банг, Поппе, Клоусон/ен/.
6. Всех наших классиков Алтая  
И всех живущих ныне - нас  
ПИАК ведь всех объединяет  
В Алтаистический Парнас.
7. Хельсинки, Манчестер и <sup>бург,</sup>Страс  
И Штреберсдорф и Анкара,  
Ерусалим, Хорсгольм и Гамбург-  
ПИАК-а сессий города.
8. Ташкент, Чикаго, Осло, Сегед,  
И Упсала и Блумингтон, <sup>ден.</sup>Лейп  
Гент, Питерсберг, Берлин и Лейп  
Не перечислить всех сторон.
9. **vivat!** ПИАК-а переменный  
По каждой Сессии главарь  
И Денис Шинор непременно  
Наш генеральный секретарь.
10. **vivat!** ПИАК-а орган славный.  
Им каждый алтаист так горд <sup>и</sup>  
**vivat!** журнал, редактор главн  
„Ньюслеттер“ и Карина Форд!

22 мая 1989 года

Интернациональной  
Посвящается Постоянной Алтаистической Конференции

Приложение - Ноты гимна на одном листе.

*Маскин*