May 1993

Almost two years have passed since the appearance of the last issue of this modest and erratic Newsletter. The excuse - if excuse is needed - is the traditional one: the number of PIAC members who bother to send in material is much smaller than that of those asking why we do not appear in print more often. So the Newsletter's essential function is to keep record of our meeting, of the publication of their proceedings, the awards made. This is a task which, I submit, this Newsletter does fulfill.

We are right now preparing for our 36th annual meeting in yet another country - Kazakhstan - where we have never been before. There is no way of telling how well the meeting will be attended but what is certain is that the local organizers had a very difficult task. We are grateful to them and also to our Russian colleagues and, more specifically, to Dr. Dmitri D. Vasiliev, Vice-President of the Association of Orientalists of the Russian Academy of Sciences, for their efforts to find a suitable venue within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). It is not their fault that almost complete breakdown of conventional communications, be that by mail, telephone or telefax, made everything very very difficult. In this respect I wish to record the PIAC's indebtedness to the Alma-Ata office of the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) whose e-mail was the only functioning link between Bloomington and Alma-Ata. I also wish to record the PIAC's thanks to our Uzbek colleagues who, in view of foreseeable logistic difficulties, graciously ceded the role of the host to Kazakhstan.

The PIAC started as a gathering of a dozen or so like-minded Altaists aimed at creating a forum of exchange of news, research problems, results achieved. Today the database of the PIAC lists about six hundred names and I am not certain that this is an unmitigated blessing. Elsewhere in this Newsletter mention will be made of the problem of mailing. But here I wish to emphasize the danger of the PIAC becoming yet another congress to which people come not so much to listen but rather to deliver a paper (perhaps even a lecture). Organizations of all sorts wish to send "delegates", individuals wish to send proxies to a meeting which, essentially, should remain a circle of friends. Perhaps because of the understandable interest in Kazakhstan, quite a few enquiries were received by people who saw in our 36th meeting an opportunity for tourism.

So far, mainly through the custom of "confessions" in which each participant introduces him- or herself to the meeting, the PIAC has maintained its tradition of friendly informality. It is my hope that this type of scholarly intercourse will continue to be maintained.

Denis Sinor
Secretary General
In Memoriam
Annemarie von Gabain

On January 15, 1993 Annemarie von Gabain, alias Maryam apa as she was affectionately called by most of us and as she usually signed her letters, died in Berlin. She was in her 92nd year and moved to Berlin only recently from her charming mountain-village of Anger in Bavaria.

Obituary notices giving details of her life will appear in due course in various periodicals; the remarks made in this ephemeral Newsletter do not wish to trace the various stages of her life and career but are intended to evoke her connections with the PIAC and put on record some of my personal souvenirs.

Maryam apa was part of that small group which in 1954, on the occasion of the 24th International Congress of Orientalists, met in Munich and decided to bring into existence a much smaller group of Altaists who, escaping the formality of big congresses, would get together to listen not to lectures but to each other. It was part of her character that she loved the exchange of ideas, she loved company and received with much charm her many visitors in Anger, a place of no easy access.

Until the time when age made travel difficult for her, she attended many of our meetings. In 1971, this founding member of the PIAC became the recipient of the Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies, usually referred to as "the PIAC gold medal". Attached to a gold chain around her neck, she happily and proudly wore it at many of our subsequent meetings.

With the death of Annemarie von Gabain, a whole and important chapter of Turcology comes to a close; to the best of my knowledge she was the last of Willy Bang’s students to depart. Her whole activity was deeply influenced by Bang’s personality and working methods and throughout her life she has remained attached to the manuscript and art treasures deposited in Berlin by the German Turfan expeditions.

I first met her in the summer of 1937 in Berlin when she listened with great patience to what may have seemed to her the rather brash political comments of a young man of twenty-one. At that time she was very hard of hearing, modern hearing-aids had not yet been discovered, and the very fact that one had to speak loud in order to be understood increased the intensity of any conversation. She helped me in many ways, including the publication of an article in the Ostasiatische Zeitschrift. We met again during my stay in Berlin in the summer and fall of 1938 and I recall her great pleasure in accepting my invitation to watch from the grand stand the impressive military parade organized in honor of Admiral
Horthy, the visiting regent of Hungary. Daughter of a general, deeply patriotic, Annemarie von Gabain was much impressed by the achievements of the Hitler regime in the restoration of German might. Political acumen was not her strong point, but her naiveté was so genuine, her humanity and honesty so obvious that, to the best of my knowledge, no one ever held her past sympathies against her. Be it noted that these sympathies she has never denied and I can recall several instances when she referred to her activities in the Frauenwerk as a model to be followed in a given situation.

After the war, I first met her in 1952 in Hamburg where, thanks to the remarkable administrative skills of Bertold Spuler, she found a niche in which she could work until her retirement. If she had any ambitions to assume administrative responsibilities, she had never manifested them to me. In the 1950s German academic life was very much a man's world and Maryam apa's gentle feminism was limited, or at least so it seemed to me, to a touching interest in her woman students for whom she was something like a mother-hen.

Her scholarly output should be and certainly will be summarized in other obituaries. To me, her lasting contribution to Turcology lies in her editing of Old Turkic texts and in her path-breaking Alttürkische Grammatik.

In December 1992, already from Berlin, I received from her a number of offprints; a welcome sign of her mental alertness. Most probably she has never received my letter of thanks. Another, more important communication, which would have given her much pleasure, has not reached her either. The Royal Asiatic Society had awarded her the first Denis Sinor Medal for Inner Asian Studies, a decision which pleased me greatly. But this last, indirect link between Maryam apa and myself was not to be forged; the Society has never received an acceptance letter of the honor which she so richly deserved.

Denis Sinor
PIAC Chronicle

34TH MEETING

The 34th Meeting of the PIAC took place in Berlin (Germany), July 21-26, 1991, under the presidency of Professor Barbara M. Kellner. Participants were lodged and all the meetings held in the Christophorus-Haus des Evangelischen Johannesstifts, Berlin-Spandau. The meeting was organized under the sponsorship of the Freie Universität zu Berlin.

The Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies (the "PIAC-Medal") was awarded to Professor Edmond Schütz, Hungary.

35TH MEETING

The 25th Meeting of the PIAC was held in Taipei (Republic of China), September 12-17, 1992. Professor Chieh-hsien Ch’en was the president and the meeting was held in the guest-house of the Academia Sinica. The meeting was organized under the joint sponsorship of the National Taiwan University and the Center for Chinese Studies Materials of the United Daily News Cultural Foundation.

Professor A.M. Shcherbak, Russia, was the recipient of the Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies.

ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

According to the constitution of the PIAC, the Secretary General is elected for a period of five years. Professor Denis Sinor’s term of office expired at the 35th meeting, held in 1992. At the Business Meeting he was re-elected for another term, ending with the PIAC’s 40th meeting, to be held in 1997.

To have a voting-right, those present at the meeting must have attended at least three previous PIAC conferences.
Past PIAC Proceedings

Queries are constantly being received concerning the Proceedings of our meetings. Here is a list of these publications.


4th Meeting (Cambridge, England 196): A short report was included in the proceedings of the 5th Meeting.


20th Meeting (Leiden, Holland, 1977): No Proceedings have been published.

21st Meeting (Manchester, England, 1978): No Proceedings have been published.

22nd Meeting (Ghent, Belgium, 1979): No Proceedings have been published.


25th Meeting (Uppsala, Sweden, 1982): Altaistic Studies. Papers Presented at the 25th Meeting of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference at Uppsala June 7-11, 1982. Edited by Gunnar Jarring and Staffan Rosén. Published as vol. 12 in the series Konferenser of the Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien (Stockholm, Almqvist & Wiksell, 1982). It can be ordered at a reduced price from the PIAC's Secretariat.

26th Meeting (Chicago, Illinois, USA, 1983): No Proceedings were published.


29th Meeting (Tashkent, USSR, 1986): No Proceedings were published.


31st Meeting (Weimar, German Democratic Republic, 1988): No Proceedings were published.

Concerning Correspondence with the PIAC

As mentioned in the leader of this issue, our PIAC has expanded considerably, and now has about six hundred members. Since no membership fee is charged (another unique feature of PIAC), we count for "member" any bona-fide Altaist who wish to remain on our membership list. Your name will be dropped from the list if for three consecutive years we do not hear from you, or, anytime, if you fail to inform the Secretariat of a change in your address. Your name will automatically be dropped from the list if a circular or newsletter sent to you is returned by the post marked "moved" or "unknown".

To help us handle a rather extensive correspondence, please follow a few simple rules:

1. If you do not type them, please write your name and address clearly, in CAPITAL LETTERS. In handwriting, letters such as m, ni, in, ui, iu are often undistinguishable.

2. Chinese and Japanese colleagues are requested to underline or CAPITALIZE their surnames. Please make sure that the Latin transcription of your name is always the same. The computer will not find your name if you change its transcription. This applies also to colleagues who, normally, write their names in Cyrillic. The computer will not recognize that, for instance, Yeltsin, Jelcin, and Elcin may be the same name.

3. Your name and address should be given also on your letter, not only on the envelope. Do not omit to give your postal-code (zipcode) number.

4. Please do not use postcards for correspondence. Often they become illegible and tend to get lost in files.

5. In answering the usual, annual question whether you wish to receive the second circular sent out before our meetings a simple "yes" or "no" would suffice, please do not hide such a response, for instance, in a Christmas card, or in a long personal letter sent to the Secretary General.

6. Telefax is a great invention and you are most welcome to use it in your correspondence. But, for financial reasons, the PIAC cannot answer by fax every letter received by that method.

7. If at all possible please write in English.
The following material was communicated by Dr. Dimitri Vasiliev, Vice-President of the Russian Orientalists' Association:

Databases on the Sources of the History of Medieval Eurasia

Contents

The Principles and the Perspectives of the "Programme of the Computer Researches on the Medieval History of Eurasia". The Principles of the Work with the Factographical Historical Databases.

Articles

Bljumkhen, S.I. (Moscow): The Structure of Ancient Chinese Guessing Dices' Database.


Dubrovskaja, D.V. (Moscow): The Problems of the PC Produced Hieroglyphic Texts of Chinese Medieval Historical Sources.

Ermolenko, L.N. and D.A. Smirnoff (Kemerovo): Asian Steppes' Stone Sculptures' Database Structure.

Ivanoff, B.A. (Moscow): Possibilities of the PC in Dealing with the Sources on Nepalese History.

Kazakoff, B. (Bukhara): The Experience of Formalization of the Historical Documents' Regasts (the Collection of Bukhara's National Library).

Nastich, V.N. (Moscow): Middle Asian Sepulchral Epigraphical Monuments in Arabic (Sepulchral Kairaks).

Pichikjan, I.R. (Moscow): The PC in Dealing with the Oxus Temples's Votive Inventory.

Rezvan, E.A. and I.G. Tikhonova (St. Petersburg): The Databases on Manuscript Depositories: The Problems and Perspectives (the beginning of the Program).
Rogozhin, N.M. (Moscow): Posolski Books as a Source in the Study of the Political Relations of Russia with the Peoples of the Countries of the Orient.


Vasiliev, D.D. (Moscow): Runic Epigraphical Monuments of South Siberia (Particularly the Sajan-Altai Region).

Vertogradova, V.V., D.N. Leljukhin, A.A. Stoljaroff, and Yu. Ja. Tzygankoff (Moscow): The Multipurpose Bibliographical Database of All-Indian Inscriptions.

Essays

Beisembiev, T.K. (Alma Ata): The Historical Texts of Kokand of XIX-XXth C.

Gorjaeva, L.V. (Moscow): Malay Medieval Literary Monuments.

Kochneff, B.D. (Samarkand): Middle Asian Numismatics of the VII-XIIth C.

Kullanda, S.V. Possibilities for the Creation of the Database on Indonesian Material.


Kurpalidis, G.M. (Moscow): Multi-level Research of the Sources on the History and Culture of the Near and Middle East (X-XIXth C.)

Luzhetskaya, N.L. (St. Petersburg): The Database on Afghan History.

Nabijan Tursun (Urumchi): The PC Database on Ancient and Medieval History of the Uighurs prior to XIIIth C.)

Ter-Mkrtichan, L. Ch. (Moscow): Armenian Sources of V-XVIIIth C. on Middle Asia and Palestine.

Zagorodnikova, T.N. (Moscow): The PC in Dealing with the Archival Documents on the History of Russian-Indian Relations.
1993 will see the launching of two new periodicals published by Molnar & Kelemen Oriental Publishers, P.O.Box 1195, H-6701 Szeged, Hungary.

**JOURNAL OF TURKOLOGY**

Edited by Árpád Berta and Ádám Molnár, it will appear twice yearly (192 pages per issue). The new journal will accept articles written in English, French, German and Russian, dealing with all aspects of Turkic linguistics. The journal will publish also book reviews, abstracts of dissertations in Turkic linguistics, brief accounts of work in progress.

The subscription price is USD 50.00 + USD 10.00 for postage. It should be sent to the publisher at the above address.

Forthcoming articles include writings by Kahar Barat, Gerhard Doerfer, Hasan Eren, Lars Johanson, Claus Schöning, Edward Tryjarski, István Vásáry and Dmitrij D. Vasiliev.

**SHAMAN**

**JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SHAMANISTIC RESEARCH**

Editor-in-Chief Mihály Hoppál, The Journal will appear twice yearly (80-90 pages per issue). It will publish English articles of a strictly academic nature on shamanism. Some of these may be translations from Russian or from a lesser-known language. The journal will also publish book reviews, brief accounts of work in progress, announcements of coming events, etc.

Forthcoming articles will include writings by Ake Hultkranz, Agnes Birtalan, John A. Dooley, Mihály Hoppál, Katherine U. Köhalmi, Mari Yoshinaga and Yiji Sasaki, Thomas Hoppe.

The subscription price for individuals is USD 20.00 (USD 15.00 for members of the International Society for Shamanistic Research) + USD 10.00 for postage. For institutions the subscription price is USD 30.00 (USD 25.00 for members of the International Society) + USD 10.00 for postage. Subscriptions should be sent to the publisher at the above address.

**JOURNAL OF MONGOLIAN STUDIES / MONGOL KENKY**

The PIAC has recently received two issues of this journal: No.13 (1990), 188 pp., and No.14 (1991), 120 pp. The articles are in Japanese and Mongol, though No.14 contains also an article in English.

The Journal, (ISSN 0385-2210) is published by Mongol-Kenkyuka [the Society of Mongolian Studies]: c/o Professor Onuki’s office, Osaka University of Foreign Studies, Aomatanihigashi 8-1-1, Minoo-shi, Osaka,.562, Japan.
APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR
THE DR. GOMBOJAB HANGIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
For the 1994-95 Academic Year

The Mongolia Society invites applications for the Dr. Gombojab Hangin Memorial Scholarship for the 1994-1995 academic year. The scholarship is to be given to a student of Mongolian nationality (defined as a Mongolian individual who has permanent residency in Mongolia, the People's Republic of China, or the former Soviet Union) to pursue Mongolian studies in the United States of America. The award will be made through competitive application. The amount of the award will be US$3,000.00 - $3,500.00. The award does not include transportation from the recipient's country to the United States or board and lodging at the university where the recipient will study. The recipient will receive the Scholarship monies in one lump sum upon arrival to the scholarship holder's institution in the United States. Upon conclusion of the award year, the recipient must write a report of his/her activities resulting from receipt of the Dr. Gombojab Hangin Memorial Scholarship.

The application deadline is 1 January 1994. Announcement concerning the recipient of the award will be made by the Society on 1 May 1994.

Application forms are available from Hangin Scholarship Committee, The Mongolia Society, 322 Goodbody Hall, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47405, USA.
The International Conference-Seminar
"Orkhon-Enissean script monuments"
Abakan, June 28-30, Kyzyl, July 1-3, Gorno-Altaisk, July 4-6, 1993

Dear colleague!
On behalf of the governments of Republic Khakassia, Republic Tuva and of Republic Altai we are inviting You to contribute to the conference referred to the centenary of the deciphernation of the Orkhon-Enissean script.

The conference is organised by the Russian National Committee of Turkologists and will take place on June 28 – July 6, 1993.

The seminar is supposed to acquaint the specialists in turkology with the richest collections of Runic monuments from museums of Minusinsk, Abakan, Kyzyl, Gorno-Altaisk and with the places of their original location.

Please note the travel expences to Abakan: an air ticket Moscow – Abakan costs 173 USD.

The accommodation and local travels payments (Khakassia, Tuva Altai) are financed by the receiving part.

The registrating fee is 100 USD in each republic.

The Organising committee appreciates being informed about your participation and the subject of your report as soon as possible. It will facilitate our planning.

fax (095) 290-05-28 e-mail sysop@iling.msk.su for Tenishev
post:103009, Москва, ул.Семашко, 1/12, Институт языкознания РАН
phone: (095) 291-63-06, 291-24-26; Tenishev, Dybo, Sheymovich

President of RNCT, Russia
academian

E.R. Tenishev
Symposium: "A. Mostaert and his Ordos Study"

The Ferdinand Verbiest Foundation is organizing a symposium under the above-given title to take place in Leuven, August 31 - September 3, 1993. The symposium fits into a larger research program entitled "The History of the Belgium-China Relations". One of the goals of the symposium is to gather as much material as possible, including personal reminiscences, for the publication of a new, complete bibliography of Fr. Mostaert.

It is worth recalling that in 1963 Fr. Mostaert was the first recipient of the Indiana University Prize for Altaic Studies, the so-called PIAC-Medal.

For further information write, to Ferdinand Verbiest Foundation, attn. Miss Sara Lievers, Atrechtcollege, Naamsestraat 63, bus 4, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium.

Computer fonts for Turcologists and Mongolists

Our colleague Professor Hans-Peter Vietze, Syringenplatz 16, DO-1055 Berlin, Fax: 49-30-423-75-69 has developed a remarkable series of computer fonts, including Hebrew, Cyrillic, Greek, Arabic, Old Uighur, Runic, and Classical Mongol.

Those interested may contact him at the above address.

A Selection of Indiana University Publications in Altaic Studies

INDIANA UNIVERSITYURALIC AND ALTAIC SERIES

Vol.156. Bakhtiyar A. Nazarov and Denis Sinor (Editors), Essays on Uzbek History, Culture, and Language. 1993, 119 pp. Cloth $19.95


**PAPERS ON INNER ASIA**


All orders should be placed with: The Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies, Indiana University, Goodbody Hall 344, Bloomington, Indiana 47405. Fax: 812-855-7500.

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