

Surging between China and Russia: Legacies, Politics, and Turns of Sinology in Contemporary Mongolia

Enkhchimeg Baatarkhuyag and Chih-yu Shih

Abstract

While the humanities dominated the sinological agenda in Mongolia before the 1950s, political intervention in the 1960s transformed the style of research. To begin, academic relations with China were severed. Sinologists received their training in the Soviet Union. Nevertheless, a string of humanity lingered on in the style of research carried out by the 1950s' generation and had an impact on later developments among the early generation of students trained after the mid-1970s. New generations of students invariably go to China or Taiwan for training. In the twenty-first century, Russia has completely lost its pedagogical position. However, those trained in the Soviet Union during the Sino-Soviet conflict have continued to hold many political and academic positions. Other than that they may hold relatively critical views of the Chinese government, differences in research and perspectives are no longer clear.

Enkhchimeg BAATARKHUYAG is expecting her doctoral degree in national development from National Taiwan University in fall 2014. She is also a research fellow affiliated with the Institute of History of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. Her areas of expertise include Mongolian modern history, Chinese modern history, and Mongolian international relations.

Chih-yu SHIH teaches China studies, civilizational politics, and the anthropology of knowledge in the Department of Political Science of National Taiwan University. He is editor-in-chief of the journal *Asian Ethnicity*. His areas of research include comparative epistemology of China studies and international relations theory.