

PREFACE

The Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS) Library holds a Mongolian collection consisting of over one hundred manuscripts and block prints. Handwritten maps and boundary reports occupy an important position in this collection. Under the auspices of the Center for Documentation and Area-Transcultural Studies (C-DATS) at TUFS, we have decided to publish these maps and reports.

In this volume we have published 16 maps in facsimile and CD-ROM with a description and analysis of them by Mr Kamimura Akira, an instructor at TUFS. Two kinds of indexes of the maps are also added. As for the boundary reports, I have written basic descriptions of 28 documents.

We should mention here the importance of publication of over 110 Mongolian manuscript maps kept in the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz (Berlin State Library – Prussian Cultural Heritage) by the late Prof. W. Heissig of Bonn University, and M. Haltod's glossary of Mongolian place names based on the German collection of Mongolian maps. These publications are useful references for researchers, and our knowledge of Mongolian maps and place names has benefited considerably from their efforts.

Prof. E. Ravdan of the National University of Mongolia recently published several volumes of place name glossaries and a study of Mongolian place names, using collections of manuscript maps kept in the State Central Library of Mongolia and the National Central Archives of Mongolia. His publications have made a huge contribution to the study of how the Mongols perceived their relationship with the land.

In this book we have published rare and valuable historical sources such as a map drawn in 1805 in Khalkh, Mongolia. It is well known that boundaries between leagues (*chuulgans*) and banners (*khoshuus*) were established and maps drawn in 1805, but we have yet to find any maps made in that year in the German and Mongolian map collections. This is the first description of boundary reports in Mongolian Studies and we hope it will contribute to the further study of institutional changes in Mongolian society.

It should be noted that our publication of maps is different from those that appear in the above-mentioned German scholars' books in that ours offer them in digitized form,

making them more easily referenced. The digitized maps and boundary reports will also be available on the TUFs Library homepage:

<http://www.tufs.ac.jp/common/library/etc/dilins.html>

Comprehensive reference of place names appearing in these maps will be also available on the website.

Mongolian handwritten maps are real works of art. Most were created in color and are very beautiful. They are, at the same time, products of the policies and intentions of a certain period of history. We believe these maps and boundary reports will shed light on the process of nation-state building in the regions of Mongolia. They can also help us to reconstruct Mongolian landscapes of the pre-modern era.

Mr Kamimura and I tried to standardize the transcription of Mongolian texts. This was possible for the Classical Mongolian texts written in Mongolian characters, but not for the Modern Mongolian written in Cyrillic letters. The Modern Mongolian thus appears in non-standardized form: ‘Khovd’ and ‘Hovd’, ‘TüsHEET’ and ‘Tu’sHEET’, for example.

Special thanks to Ms Mitsuya Midori and Mr Sininbayar, graduate students at TUFs, who prepared some place name indexes. Mr Sininbayar also prepared a draft of a transcription of the boundary reports, some of which I revised for use in this book.

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