

Politics and Literature in Mongolia 1921-1948

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Abstract:

Between the 1921 socialist revolution and the first Writers' Congress held in April 1948, Mongolia's literary community constituted a key resource in the formation and implementation of policy, helping to integrate the nomadic herding population into the "new society" envisioned by the Party. At the same time, debates within the Party, discontent among the population, and questions of religion and tradition led to personal and ideological conflict among the intelligentsia and, in many cases, to trials and executions.



This talk presents some of the writers and texts who played central roles in the development of Mongolian literature during the early revolutionary period, and who helped to develop and define the relationship between politics and literature at the time. Driven by the parallel forces of ideology and personal advance, and by the feeling to have Mongolia's literature occupy a place internationally, their work addressed issues such as education, healthcare, religion, and the ideological presence of the Party and its leadership, in order to promote socialism in general but also to present the particular variety of socialism which defined Mongolia's nomadic herding society.

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1:15 pm-2:30 pm EST

Online event: Register for Zoom link

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