

GLOSSARY

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- Aimak** – administrative and territorial unit in Mongolia.
- Ail** – nomadic group, consisting of two or three related families.
- Airag** Айраг(кумыс) – drink of fermented mare’s milk.
- Alon gua** – Mother of Bodonchir, founder of the borzhigin tribe.
- Ambani** Амбань– feudal prince, who had the title *зүна* (Prince of fifth degree).
- And** – friend, comrade, and sister.
- Argal** – dry dung of cattle, the main type of fuel in a yurt.
- Argal** – wild mountain sheep.
- Arkhi** – Milk Vodka.
- Bituun** – New Year’s Eve on the lunar calendar.
- Boov** – cakes made of wheat flour used in the New Year and other ceremonies.
- Boodog** – kind of roast meat dish cooked in a special way. Bogd - saint.
- Burkhan** – deity, celestial.
- Burkhanii shiree** – altar, on which are placed bronze statues of Buddhist deities and bodhisattvas, the sacred Buddhist books as well as the other important attributes in a yurt.
- Bergen** – women who would perform the role of mediator between the bride and groom, teaching them the execution of various traditional rituals during the wedding, who also would act as intermediary between the parents of boys and girls.
- Gobi** – Desert in Mongolia.
- Golomt** – hearth in the center of the home, around which is organized space in the yurt.
- Dalai lama** – the title of head of the school Gelukpa, which was first introduced in Mongolia in 1578 by Altan Khan.
- Dobu mergen** – a distant ancestor of Genghis Khan.
- Eruul** – good wishes in the poetic form, a form of the oral poetry of the Mongols.
- Deli** – Mongolian National robe with the right side openings, and it has both summer and winter versions, the lining of the winter one consists of lambskin, summer one of cotton.
- Dees** – rope made of animal hair.
- Zolgokh** – New Year’s greeting.
- Zus** – common yellow glue which *Altai Uriankhains* is done in the traditional way from the skins of animals and it is utilized for the domestic

applications.

Magtaal – praise, odic genre of Mongolian poetry.

Maikhan – Summer Tent.

Morin khuur – Mongolian national stringed instrument similar in sound to the cello.

Naadam (three games of the mean) – traditional national sports: wrestling, archery, and horse racing.

Nair – feast, festival, fun, celebration.

Noyon – Mr., Prince, and military leader.

Nom – teaching, book

Nutug – nomadic, native terrain, valleys and mountains, steppe and river, where is available a sufficient reserve of grazing and hunting grounds.

Obo – pile of stones on the mountain tops, mountain passes, on the banks of rivers, lakes, representing the altar of “owner” of the site or locality.

Oirati – Generic name of the nomadic tribes inhabiting in the western Mongolia: derbets, Torguts, zahchins, *Altai Uriankhains*, and etc.

Urkhi – Opening for smoke going-out of Ger, felt square, which closes out the smoke-hole of the yurt.

Rashaan – healing spring water, mineral water, holy water..

Sakhuis – spirit-keeper of the family and tribes of the Mongols.

Sumon – administrative unit in Mongolia, equivalent to region in Russia.

Tavagtai idee – dairy and other products, posted on a wooden plate, guests are hosted by them in a yurt.

Toono – The round hole in the central arches at the most top of the yurt, which serves as a chimney.

Toortsog – Headwear borderless with a brush made of filaments of varying lengths.

Tumen – ten thousand, division unit of troops in medieval Mongolia.

Khadak – silk scarf of blue, yellow or white colors, which is presented at the different occasions as a token of good wishes.

Khalkha – the most numerous ethnic group in Mongolia.

Khantaaz – Men’s vest, part of the national dress of the Mongols.

Khashaa – corral.

Khoimor – prideful place at the northern part of the yurt.

Khurmusta – supreme heavenly deity in the mythology of the Mongol peoples.

Khoton – community, which, move and work together to accomplish common business tasks.

Khoshun – administrative unit during the rule of the Qing Dynasty in Mongolia.

Khudon – rural area, the periphery.

Khuree – ancient way of placing yurts in a circle, characteristic for many of the

nomadic peoples

Khutukhta – the highest hierarchy of the Buddhist clergy in Mongolia.

Tsagaan idee (white food, dairy) – milk and milk products.