

Eurasian Nomads as Agents of Cultural Change

*Institute of Advanced Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Givat Ram Campus
5-8 June 2006*

Monday, June 5, 2006

18:30 **Greetings: Prof. Steven Aschheim**, George L. Mosse Program in
History

Keynote Lecture: Thomas T. Allsen, Oregon USA
Population Movements in the Mongolian Era

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Session 1: Early Contacts: Archaeology, Identity and Empire

9:00-11:00 **Gideon Shelach**, Hebrew University
*Weapons, Ornaments and Food: The Creation of Pastoralist Identity
on the Borders of China during the First Millennium BCE*

William Honeychurch, Gettysburgh College
Nomadic Cores, Sedentary Peripheries, and the Statecraft of Empire

11:00-11:15 Coffee break

11:15-13:15 **Steven Rosen**, Ben Gurion University
Overgrazing and Depletion of the Natural Resources in the Negev

Anatoly Khazanov, University of Wisconsin, Madison
The Scythians and their Neighbours

13:15-14:30 Lunch

Session 2: From Antiquity to Medieval: Archaeology and Language

14:30-17:00 **Kazim Abdullaev**, Institute of Archaeology, Samarkand
*Yueh-chih-Kushan in Central Asia and the Problem of
their Settlement*

Qi Dongfang, Beijing University
*The Disappearance of the Xianbei: An Archaeological Investigation of
Northern Nomads in China*

17:00-17:30 Coffee break

17:30-18:30 **Isenbike Togan**, Ankara University
The Use of Nomadic Socio-political Terminology in Chinese Sources

Wednesday, June 7th

9:00-12:00 Excursion to the Old City

Session 3: Into the Mongol Period: Kingship, Technology, Identity

13:30-15:30 **Peter Golden**, Rutgers University and Institute for Advanced Study
Irano-Turkic Interaction: Aspects of the Sacral Kingship in Khazaria

Michal Biran, Hebrew University
The Mongols and Nomadic Identity: The Case of the Khitans in China

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-16:45 **Reuven Amitai**, Hebrew University
Gunpowder and Trebuchets: Mongol Siege Technology Re-examined

16:45-17:15 Coffee break

Session 4: The Role of Nomads in the Development of Material Culture

17:15- 19:15 **Francois Louis**, Bard Graduate Center
Chinese-Khitans Acculturation and the Material Culture of the Liao Elite

Morris Rossabi, Columbia University
The Role of the Mongols in the Transmission of Porcelain and the Other Decorative Arts

Thursday, June 8th

Session 5: The Mongols and the Middle East

8:45-10:45 **Beatrice Manz**, Tufts University
The Impact of Nomad Conquest on Nomad Culture and Society in the Mongol Middle East

George Lane, School of Oriental and African Studies, London
Persian Notables and the Families which Underpinned Mongol Rule in Iran-zamin

10:45-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:00 **David Morgan**, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Mongol Historiography since 1985: The Rise of Cultural History

12:00-13:15 Lunch

Session 6: Towards the Modern World: Law, Political Culture, Religion

13:15-16:15 **Istevan Vasary**, Budapest

The Tatar Factor in the Formation of Moscow's Political Culture

Veronica Weit, Bonn University

Shamanism and Buddhism in Mongolia: Religious and Political Aspects

Uli Schamiloglu, University of Wisconsin, Madison

The Black Death and Political and Cultural Transformations: Chinggisid and Islamic Legitimacy in Central Eurasia

16:15-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-18:30 **Ron Sela**, Indiana University

Yasa and Shari`a in Central Asia: The anti-Yasa Polemics in Late 18th century Bukhara

Andre Wink, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Post-nomadic Empires of Hind: from the Mongols to the Mughals

18:30-18:45 Coffee break

18:45-19:15 **Concluding Session**

Concluding Remarks: David Morgan, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Friday, June 9th

Excursion to the South