Einladung zum

Mongolei-Colloquium

Dienstag, 07. May 2019

18 (c.t.) – 20 Uhr

Dr. Matthieu Chochoy

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Genghis Khan as he was not

Portrait of French actor Lekain as Genghis Khan in Voltaire’s play L’Orphelin de la Chine (British Museum)

One of the consequences of the Mongol Empire was the encounter between Western Christianity and nations that were unknown to Europeans so far. Literature published on this topic generally ends in the 15th century. Written in French, the texts result from translations of Persian, Chinese and Manchu sources and reflect traditions of historiographies in which Genghis Khan occupies several positions. If the collapse of the Empire marked the end of political interest in the so-called Tartars, the knowledge accumulated about them during two centuries did not disappear.

From the perspective of knowledge construction, the lecture will pay special attention to the controversy generated by the meeting of those sources and to the different perceptions of Genghis Khan. Although he was known since the 13th century, the first biographies were only published in the early 18th century. We will discuss how European authors perceived the Mongols in historical sources in early modern Europe with a focus on the representation of Genghis Khan, considered at that time as a “Tartar Emperor”.

Neuer Ort: Hauptgebäude, Hörsaal VII (1. OG)

Im Mongolei-Colloquium, seit 2013 organisiert von der Mongolistik am IOA, werden aktuelle Forschungs- und Praxisprojekte vorgestellt. In diesem Austauschforum kommen Wissenschaftler, Studierende und die interessierte Öffentlichkeit miteinander ins Gespräch.

Alle Interessierten sind willkommen!