

Einladung zum
Mongolei-Colloquium

Donnerstag, 21. Januar 2016

18 (c.t.) – 20 Uhr

Dr. Charlotte Marchina

Université Paris Sorbonne Cité

Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO)

**Building Community: Human and Animal
Agencies in Mongolian and Buryat Husbandry**

The presentation will address the way herders and their animals coexist in Mongolian and Buryat (Aga district, Russia) pastoralism. By studying how herders conceive the **agency of their animals** (horses, camels, cattle, sheep, goats and dogs) and rely on it, Charlotte Marchina shows that animal husbandry, far from being reducible to a mere relation of domination, is a complex system made of multiple interactions between **humans and animals**, who **mutually adapt** to each other **to build community**.

This co-shaping will be illustrated through human-animal coexistence, communication and cooperation. Innovative methods such as **GPS and GIS are used to analyse the spatial features** of human-animal cohabitation in order to understand how herders and animals manage the pastures which are not fenced. The multispecies community communicates by **mobilising the five senses**. Particularly the human-animal sound communication reveals differentiated cognitive capacities, depending on the species. However, human-animal communication gets blurred with the ever greater presence of Russians in Buryat husbandry. **Can animals be bilingual?**

Morphological and cognitive skills differentiate also individual animals among their species. **Herders build on these individual characteristics** in situation of human-animal cooperation. The case of the herder and the lasso-pole horse (*uurgach mor'*) carrying out a joint action exemplifies the conception of human-animal relations among the Mongols, where **herders expect their animals to be autonomous** and to play an active role in pastoral tasks.

Ort: Universität Bonn, IOA
Abteilung für Mongolistik und Tibetstudien
Regina-Pacis-Weg 7 (Gebäude des Ägyptischen Museums)
Raum: ÜR 2024 /Bibliothek

Alle Interessierten sind willkommen!