

Einladung zum
Mongolei-Colloquium

am Donnerstag, 30. Mai 2013

18 (c.t.) – 20 Uhr

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**Beyond a country of nomadic herders without city:
Some issues on urbanization and environmental
degradation in Mongolia**

“For hundreds of years the Mongols have practised mobile animal husbandry riding horses and living in felt-yurts in the middle of nowhere in Central Asia!” It might be one of the most widespread and stereotypical descriptions of the Mongols and Mongolia. The majority of studies of Mongolia focus on the countryside, rural life, religious practices, traditional customs, nomadic herders etc., although recent statistical data shows that around 69% of the population inhabits in urban areas and more than 46% of the population resides in Ulaanbaatar – the capital city of Mongolia. However, issues on urbanisation in Mongolia are less studied than fashionable topics in Mongolian Studies such as nomadism, Genghis Khan, shamanism and etc. Even though there are large number of non-academic articles, stories, data and misinformation about municipal lives of Mongolia, they resemble each other regarding their contents. Some authors praise Ulaanbaatar as the most beautiful city of Blue sky, while others claim that the capital is one of poorest capitals in “Third World” surrounded by slums and squatter districts.

This paper deals with some issues on urbanisation in Mongolia, with particular emphasis on the capital city – Ulaanbaatar including its brief history, main peculiarities of the city, rural-to-urban migration that causes urban ecosystem degradation, indoor air pollution and etc. People’s alienation from natural environment, negligence of environmental ethics and weak upbringing of young generation will be introduced as another factors of urban environmental degradation. Moreover it attempts to redress some misunderstandings around the issue.

Ort: Universität Bonn, IOA

Abteilung für Mongolistik und Tibetstudien

Regina-Pacis-Weg 7 (Gebäude des Ägyptischen Museums)

RAUM 3.008 (Dachgeschoss)

Alle Interessierten sind willkommen!