

Land of wonderful contrasts. Notes of a Kazakh Ambassador in Mongolia

Kalybek Ibrahimovic Koblandin

It is unlikely that in the late 80s of the twentieth century I thought looking through the book catalogue in the library of the Academy of Sciences of Kazakhstan in Almaty and ordering the book *Journeys to the Eastern countries of Plano Carpini and Rubruk*¹, which I later read in one gulp, that in a few years I would end up in Mongolia, a country at that time not very well known in the political map of the world, and I would remember this occasion more than once.

After twenty years of work in the administration of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Kazakhstan, on April 1, 2013, the decree of my appointment as Ambassador to Mongolia was released, I was enjoying the spring air of the snowy peaks of Alatau, in the cozy city of Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), where I worked at the Embassy for the second time. Colleagues were joking, maybe this is a clever joke made on the 1st of April, but everything turned out to be true. Having handed over my affairs urgently, not even being able to say goodbye to my numerous friends and colleagues, within two days I flew to Astana.

At that time, the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Ulaanbaatar was headed by a Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim*. On the occasion of the international meeting of the "Community of Democracy" in Mongolia at the end of April with the participation of a number of leaders of countries, international organizations, I was instructed to immediately fly out and take part in the meeting. My task was to assist the current President of my country, at that time UN Under-Secretary-General, Head of the UN Office in Europe, Kassym-Jomart To-

¹ *Journeys to the Eastern countries of Plano Carpini and Rubruk*, Ed. N. P. Shastina, M., 1957.

kayev, an internationally recognized intellectual diplomat, in his stay in Ulaanbaatar.

There was no direct flight from Kazakhstan to Ulaanbaatar at that time, and I had to fly to Mongolia via Bishkek on the Turkish flight Istanbul-Bishkek-Ulaanbaatar. I don't know why it was necessary to fly through Bishkek, and not Almaty, since more than 90% of the passengers on this flight were Kazakhs, both from Kazakhstan and Mongolia. People were forced to come from Almaty, and those who arrived from Mongolia, mostly Kazakhs, had to travel further from Almaty. In addition, when you fly from Mongolia, the plane usually passed Almaty but flew to Bishkek. Such a long road was a waste of time and financial resources, and most importantly – nerve cells. As the wits said, the parties did not agree on a price for the plane to fly through Almaty to Ulaanbaatar, while Bishkek turned out to be more flexible.

At 4 am, half-asleep, we took off from Bishkek, taking into account the time of +2 hours, the flight took 4 hours, we were supposed to arrive in Ulaanbaatar at 10 am local time. Dozing in an armchair, I started recalling my knowledge about Mongolia, by the morning I was looking through the window of the plane, since it was already dawn. Even in the Bishkek airport I noticed passengers from European countries, international officials, or businessmen, I thought, might be Kazakhs and Mongols. The latter were difficult to distinguish from the Kazakhs because we looked so similar. Some of them spoke Mongolian, and several young people dressed stylishly spoke English.

For reference, Mongolia is a State in East Asia, bordering Russia in the north and China in the south. It has a territory of 1,564,116 sq. km, with no access to the sea. The population is more than 3.2 million people. Mongolian-speaking peoples or Mongols are a group of related peoples who speak Mongolian languages and are closely connected by a common centuries-old history, culture, traditions and customs. They inhabit the north of China, Mongolia, and the regions of the Russian Federation – the republics of Buryatia (more than 465 thousand people) and Kalmykia (more than 185 thousand people), as well as the Irkutsk region and the Trans-Baikal Territory.

Abroad, more than 10 million people consider themselves to be of Mongolian descent. About 6 million Mongols live in the Inner Mon-

golia Autonomous Region (People's Republic of China, PRC), up to 3 million live in Liaoning, Gansu, the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, and other regions of China.

In the field of external migration, Mongolia is both a donor and a recipient. The educational and labor migration of Mongolian citizens to other countries has acquired a large scale. Significant communities of immigrants from Mongolia have been already formed in South Korea (about 50,000 people). Most of them are employed in industry – mining, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, mechanical engineering, production of building materials, chemical industry, as well as in construction and agriculture (50.1%) and in the service sector (25.2%). Many Mongols live in the USA (Washington, Oakland, Denver, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc.), in some European countries (Germany, Czech Republic, Poland, etc.), in Russia, Japan, Australia, and several other countries.

If we talk about the foreign policy of Mongolia, it should be noted that it consists of three directions. The first direction is the Northern neighbor, Russia. The second is the Southern neighbor, China, while the third direction is the rest of the world. Accordingly, Mongolia considers its entire foreign policy from these positions, considering its national interests. Mongolia is not a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), although its neighbors are Russia and China and even the rest of the SCO members would like to see it in their ranks. Mongolia views this organization as more of a military-political focus, and they are interested in the economic dimension. Therefore, Mongolia is showing more interest in the economic policy of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).

The migration policy of Mongolia is very peculiar, although with many countries it has a 90-day visa-free regime. Given the small population, the government vigilantly monitors the migration process. In this regard, one interesting situation can be recalled, which was later written about by news feeds. In one of the past years, the Migration Service of Mongolia publicly expelled about 300 Chinese citizens who violated the passport regime of stay. The Chinese nationals were put into buses and taken to the Mongolian-Chinese border. I thought that not every country could so publicly and boldly escort guests holding a passport with the seal of the "Middle Kingdom".

Mongolia also has long-standing diplomatic ties with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Back in the days of the Soviet Union, they mutually opened their embassies in the capitals. In the 50s of the twentieth century several families of the leaders of the DPRK lived on the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar, where cozy houses with a fence are still preserved. An international seminar dedicated to the Korean Peninsula is constantly held.

Of course, when the world was divided into capitalist and socialist camps, the socialist countries opened their embassies in Mongolia. Currently, from those socialist countries in Ulaanbaatar there are the embassies of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Cuba, Laos, North Korea, China, the Russian Federation, not to mention the embassies of the USA, Canada, Australia, Great Britain, Germany, India, Italy, South Korea, Japan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, international organizations, etc.

Official diplomatic relations between Kazakhstan and Mongolia were established 30 years ago, on January 22, 1992. One of the most important factors in the establishment of diplomatic relations and the opening of the embassy of Kazakhstan in Mongolia was the presence of the Kazakh population in the west of the country, in the foothills of Altai. According to scientists, even before the empire of Genghis Khan, the Turkic-speaking tribes Kerei, Naimans (current Kazakh tribes), who had State attributes, roamed the territory of Mongolia. The first Kazakh nomad camps in the west of the country appeared in the 40-60s of the XIX century.

At that time, the territory of Mongolia was part of the Qing Empire and the Kazakh tribes, along with cattle, roamed in the western region of the country. After the creation of the independent Mongolian State (between 1911 and 1921) and the official definition of the border, those ethnic Kazakhs populations became citizens of Mongolia. Meanwhile, the border of the territory between Kazakhstan and Mongolia is separated by about 60 km, a wedge divided by the lands of the Altai Republic of the Russian Federation. Under the USSR, especially in the summer, livestock breeders of Mongolia, mostly Kazakhs, brought cattle in herds to the Semipalatinsk meat plant in Kazakhstan.

According to the latest national census 2020, more than 120 thousand ethnic Kazakhs live in Mongolia, over 90% of them live in

Bayan-Ulgiysky and Khovdinsky aimaks, in the west of the country. Even under the Soviet Union, Kazakhstan and Mongolia had close cultural, humanitarian, trade, and economic ties. In Kazakh schools in Mongolia, they studied using textbooks published in Kazakhstan, listened to Kazakh radio broadcasts, while the local population subscribed to Kazakh newspapers and magazines, as Mongolia used the Cyrillic alphabet.

After gaining independence, Kazakhstan called on the Kazakh communities living abroad to take an active part in the construction and formation of a sovereign state, and Kazakhs from Mongolia were among the first to respond to this call. According to some data, during this period, about 100 thousand Kazakhs from Mongolia returned to Kazakhstan.

Looking at the gray-green steppes under the wing, I recalled the history of Mongolia, about Genghis Khan, about his descendants of the Thor-Chingizids in the Kazakh steppe, who were certainly elected khans of the Kazakh tribes and clans. Actually, in the academic environment and among some historians, there is still an argument about whether Genghis Khan was an ethnic Kazakh. A number of Kazakh writers and journalists consider Genghis Khan a Kazakh, since, according to their arguments, Genghis Khan's mother was from the Konrat clan. Also, Genghis Khan married a woman named Borte, who came from that same Konrat clan that was indeed one of the main clans of the Kazakh tribes.

The head of the Mongol Empire was given the name Shyn-kuz (ruler of peaks) by the Naiman-Kerey tribes, now Kazakh tribes since he was previously called Temuchin. Also at that time, the basis of the troops of Genghis Khan were nomadic Turkic tribes, and according to some sources, during this period there was no Mogul or Mongol tribe, as they appeared only later. Of course, Mongolian researchers have their own counterarguments. However, there are also more recent historical facts to prove the presence and importance of ethnic Kazakhs in Mongolia.

Turar Ryskulov, one of the authors of the first Mongolian constitution of 1924, was an ethnic Kazakh, acting as a representative of the Central Committee of the Comintern. It is at Ryskulov's suggestion that the capital of Mongolia was called Ulaanbaatar ('Red Hero').

In the west of the country, the so-called Bayan-Ulgei aimak (region), the main Kazakh population lives, numbering more than 90 thousand people, among them are well-known public figures, ambassadors, parliament deputies, scientists, writers, builders, livestock breeders, athletes, etc., who contribute to the development of Mongolia. Totally, over 120 thousand ethnic Kazakhs live throughout Mongolia.

In the history of Mongolia there were periods of Turkic Khagاناتes (6-8 centuries) with famous rulers Kultegin, Bilge Khagan, Tonykyuk and others. Stone steles written in runic letters narrate their glorious deeds, and such texts are understandable even to the current generations of Turkic-speaking peoples.

In Ulaanbaatar

My drowsiness was awakened by landing at the airport, which at that time was called “international”. This airport was built in the 50-60s of the last century, while somewhere in 2005 it was named after Genghis Khan. It should be noted that in Mongolia the name of Genghis Khan is cult. His name is found everywhere, from brands of various types of vodka to the names of cinemas, streets, cafes, restaurants, etc. Later in 2020, a new airport was opened, about 50 km from the city.

Mongolia met me with a blue sky, a sunny day and numerous houses in bright red-green colors, yurts. While driving from the airport to the city, the road was full of Toyota cars, right-hand drive hybrid cars, jeeps of various brands, driven by residents in national clothes. It is noticeable that in the city, although it was built with the help of the Soviets, there were no Soviet cars like Zhiguli, Volga, etc. Later, on the outskirts of the country, I often met unattractive old Soviet cars, the so-called “loaf” because of their appearance, similar to a loaf of bread: UAZ, minivan, 4-wheel drive, popular in the Union, which can be said specially made for off-road. This car is like a tank, a “work-horse”, as it passed in such places where various foreign cars would get stuck.



Yurtas and skyscrapers. A landscape from the capital city

That Saturday morning, the city woke up slowly. From afar were visible, hills with houses, skyscrapers and five-story high-rise buildings from the Soviet era, made up of concrete panels.

From my window, I could see many cars rushing towards each other. Here I noticed one feature that cars traveling in the next lane can turn in front of your car whenever they please. Moreover, they can cross solid lanes without car horns and requests. Nevertheless, at the next turn, your car drives as it pleases. This behavior is normal, as the locals simply do not pay attention to such situations.

Our Kazakhstanis would long ago have honked loudly with a horn, indignant and addressing the drivers with “bad words”, or would have twisted their hands at their temples. However, here this is customary. Local residents then joked that the Mongols immediately transferred from horses to cars and the habit of driving a horse when he pleases remained. Therefore, the main thing on the roads in Mongolia is the bumper of your car, which should wedge in front of other car bumpers and your car can be let through.

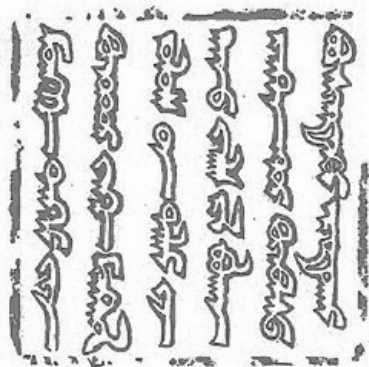
It should be noted that the inscriptions and signs on the street are written in Cyrillic, in Mongolian and in English, where there are almost no Russian words. Another feature is that the population mainly

speaks Mongolian. As my friends told me, they have three generations living in Mongolia and, as a rule, two TVs at home. On the first TV – the first generation parents watch Russian channels. Usually these are people aged 60 – 90 who speak and write well in Russian. For almost 70 years of the Soviet system, these people studied at school mainly the Russian language, studied in the USSR, worked closely and communicated with Soviet people.

The second generation is made up of people aged 40 to 60 who partly learned Russian at school and in the USSR. They also speak English quite well. As a rule, they understand and can even speak Russian, but due to lack of practice, they can change to English.

As for the third generation, these are people under 40 who are fluent in English and Mongolian. Even city children speak Mongolian. Notably, the country has a high level of efficiency in the use of English, compared with Kazakhstan. Until the 90s of the 20th century, the Russian language was a priority in Mongolia, and after the fall of the USSR, English courses were opened everywhere in cities and aimaks. Thus, the country has dramatically advanced in terms of English language proficiency over the course of 5-7 years.

At the period of the political and social transformation of the 1990s, the country introduced the Old Mongolian vertical script, created on the basis of the Uyghur script of the 12th century, as well as the Oirat Todo-Bichig script and the Manchu script that originated from it, which are still used today. This script is mainly used for writing official letters, messages and congratulations, along with Cyrillic and documents in English.



Tradition and beyond

Like all nomadic peoples, the Mongols are divided into tribes and clans, which are written about in passports and identity cards (Khalkha, Bayit, Uriankhai, Durbut, Zakhchin, etc.). In addition, in Mongolia they celebrate the New Year according to the lunar calendar – Tsagaan sar, which means “white month” in translation. It runs on a rolling schedule (end of January – mid-February) and symbolizes the long-awaited end of wintering and migration to spring pastures.

The celebration of Tsagaan Sar lasts three days. On the festive table, the main place is occupied by the dish “idee”, consisting of an odd number of layers of national pastries – cakes or cookies “ul boov”. Most often, the host makes at least 5 or 9 layers of this dish, because it is believed that the more, the better it is. There is also a national dish named “Uuts”, made from boiled lamb rump. According to the tradition, the eldest member of the family arranges this dish on plates.

The festive table among the Mongols is a gathering place for the whole family. By tradition, children, if they live separately, come to their parents. All family members need to gather at the table. Even those people who quarreled during the year must reconcile. In addition, all guests and family members wear national costumes.

Also on the table is served a dish of “buuzy” (large dumplings), which is handmade and prepared in large quantities before the holiday. This dish is prepared by the whole family together and sometimes families prepare up to 1.000 dumplings. Furthermore, various dairy products are served on the table. People treat guests with koumiss, as well as “fiery drinks”. When guests are about to leave, they are given gifts. Thus, the celebration always takes several salaries and savings.

Having met the onset of the New Year at night, with the first rays of the sun, all participants can begin to perform traditional rituals. People go out into the street in their best clothes and go to meet the sunrise. The biggest national holiday that is officially celebrated in the summer is Naadam. It takes place on July 11-15 and lasts from 3 to 5 days. Unofficially, it is sometimes celebrated for more than a

month. This holiday is usually timed to the historical dates of Mongolia.

Thus, in 2022, the country celebrated throughout the country the 2230th year and the 2231st anniversary of the creation of the first Mongolian State, the 815th and 816th anniversaries of the formation of the Great Mongolian Empire, the 110th and 111th of Independence, the 100th and 101st Anniversaries of the People’s Revolution. These celebrations are held annually on an increasing date. Having rediscovered their historical heritage, Mongols like to wear their beautiful national costumes. In all celebrations, various competitions are held, such as the festival of national costumes “Deeltei Mongol”, etc. All people, from ordinary people to the leadership of the country, wear Mongolian deels (chapans) and hats of various shapes.

The main festive events are traditionally held in the city of Ulaanbaatar. Thus, according to the tradition, before the opening of the national holiday, nine State white “bunchuks” (horsehair) are transferred, accompanied by a guard of honor, from the State Residence to the Central Stadium. According to some reports, these “bunchuks” represent the nine tribes that represented the core of the Mongol Empire.



Horserace in the Central Stadium



After the establishment of nine white bunchuks in a place of honor, the President of Mongolia makes a speech and announces the opening of Naadam. The main events of this national holiday are competitions in national wrestling, archery, dice games and horseracing. It should be noted that the winner of the national wrestling in Mongolia in terms of honor and celebrity is akin to an Olympic champion, or even more.

Mongolian wrestling has its own rituals, rules and specific features: before, fights were not limited in time, while now there are some temporary restrictions. However, there are no weight categories. The fight takes place in an open space and the loser is the one who first touches the ground with any part of the body, except for the soles of the feet and hands. Each wrestler has his own second – “zasuul”, after the fight, the defeated must pass under the winner’s raised right hand as a sign that he admits his defeat. The winner performs the traditional eagle dance.

At the competition, wrestlers wear a special wrestling costume: national boots with curved toes – “Mongol gutal”, short shorts – “shuudag” and a kind of short shirt with an open chest – “zodog”. At

the competition according to the Olympic system, from 512 to 1.024 wrestlers fight in pairs. Accordingly, there are from 9 to 10 “davaa”, i.e. rounds. Depending on the passage of the “davaa”, special honorary titles are awarded: the very first level:

- “nachin” – “falcon” – for the victory in five rounds;
- “hartsag” (“harsaga”) – “hawk” – for the victory in six rounds;
- “zaan” – “elephant” – for the victory in seven rounds;
- “guard” – “garuda” (sacred bird) – for the victory in eight rounds;
- “arslan” (“arsalan”) – “lion” – for the victory in nine rounds;
- “avarga” (“abarga”) – “giant” – or the one who won in 10 rounds (when 1.024 wrestlers fight), or when only 512 wrestlers fight, the wrestler who won in the 9th round get the title of “arslan” (“lion”).

This year the winner of the “Giant” was a 24-year-old wrestler from Khobdinsky aimak, O. Khangai. The Kazakh wrestler B. Serik from Bayan-Ulgeysky aimak, who won it among the Kazakhs over the past 76 years, was also awarded the high title of “Elephant”.

The festival also hosts an archery competition (*suryn kharvaa*). Both men and women participate in this competition. It is held between two teams, each of which has four arrows per person; each team must hit 33 leather targets (*sura*). Men shoot from a distance of 75 m, women – from 65. The winner is awarded the title of “people’s shooter” (*ardyn kharvaach*).

Another popular game among the Mongols is “Shagain harvaa” (a game of dice for accuracy), similar to the Kazakh game “alchiki”. Apparently, such a game is characteristic of all nomadic peoples, as it is popular also among Buryats, Kalmyks, Tuvans, Kyrgyz, etc. The main goal is to knock out hasaa, that is, flat bones, from a special supply. They are also beaten with bones. The dice players sit clockwise and play in teams. The shooter must knock out the bone from a distance of 4 meters and 72 centimeters. To do this, he sits down, bending one knee, and a special panel is placed on the other knee, on which another bone is fired. Then the bones “shot” by the teams are counted and those who were more accurate become the winners. As soon as the competition is over, the teams should exchange snuff boxes, then treats follow.

Horse racing is very popular among the Mongols. It is believed that the presence of two-year-olds at the finish line brings good luck and prosperity. Therefore, it is no coincidence that many citizens during

the Naadam races rush to the suburb of Yarmarga, where, according to tradition, races have been held for several decades. Here, in the days of Naadam, even a town of tents and yurts arises, where the uyach (the one who trains the horse) prepares the horses for the races.

In almost every family in hudon (in rural areas), along with other types of livestock, they often keep 1-2 herds of horses. There are families with herds numbering more than 1.000 heads. In general, cattle breeders in the economy cannot do without horses. Every year at the end of the year, a census of livestock and domestic animals is conducted in Mongolia. So, at the end of 2021, the number of livestock on a national scale amounted to 67.3 million heads, while the number of horses – 4.3 million heads, cattle – 5 million, camels – about 500 thousand, sheep – more than 30 million, goats – more than 26 million heads. It should be noted that with social changes, motor vehicles and motorcycles firmly entered the life of the Mongols. Almost without exception, you can see that cattle are not grazed on horses, but on a Japanese or Chinese-made motorcycle.

Horse racing has its own specifics, the country has created the Federation of Equestrian Sports. Half-breeds (horses of other breeds) are not allowed to race with Mongolian horses. There is a very big difference between them. Also, 2-year-old (daaga) horses with 4-year-old (khyzaalan) horses are not released at the same time at the start of one distance.

The Mongolian horse is characterized by small stature and short legs, but it has a large volume of internal organs of the body. By reducing the feed, they achieve a reduction in the internal organs of the horse's digestive system, and gradually increasing the load, they start galloping at a distance of 4-5 kilometers. Then increase the distance to 10-12 kilometers. This ensures the preparation of the horse for the races.

The start is located outside the city, the route is steppe and is not specially prepared. The finish line is always within the city, where many fans are waiting for the results of the races. The peculiarity of the Mongolian races is in its riders. These are girls and boys aged 4 to 12, which always surprises and delights foreign guests and tourists.

Horses of six age groups take part in the races: – from two-year-olds (15 km) to six-year-olds – up to 30 km. The winning horse is honored with high honors. The five fastest horses from each race receive

the collective title of “five koumiss”. They are led in a circle of honor; praises are sung and illuminated with koumiss. Riders from the hands of the president receive prizes, and horses are given high-profile titles. In recent years, the owners of the best horses are usually well-known businessmen, political and cultural figures. The winner receives about 1 million tugriks (\$1 = 3157 tugriks as of 07.2022), while the amount increases annually. The price of a thoroughbred horse reaches more than 100 million tugriks.

The influx of modernity

Ulaanbaatar, nestled among hills and a basin, is the largest city in Mongolia. According to some data, half of the country’s inhabitants live in the capital (about 1.5 million people). Naturally, the city is busy, in the morning and in the evening you can get into traffic jams, while you will quickly reach your destination on foot. In recent years, the problem of the city has become smog from thermal power plants and cars, and gas pollution, it’s good when the wind blows. As they say, during Covid, due to the ban, the city and the sky became cleaner.

In general, it is sunny in Mongolia for more than 300 days, rains are rare and fleeting. Higher to the hills, the Tuul River flows through the city, which flows hundreds of kilometers into the Orkhon River, and then into the Selenga and Baikal. In general, winters in the city are long and severe (up to -40°C), and summers are cool ($+20^{\circ}\text{C}$).

It is said that among all the capitals of the States in the world, Ulaanbaatar has the lowest average annual temperature, second only to Canada’s Ottawa. However, cold temperatures in Mongolia are quite easy to bear due to dry air: for example, the temperature of -20°C in Ulaanbaatar is tolerated in the same way as -10°C in the southern part of Kazakhstan.

Mongolia’s inhabitants got used to their climate. Children use to swim in the rivers since the end of April, and in autumn they are still walking around in jackets. When in summer the temperature can sometimes be about a week $+25-27^{\circ}\text{C}$, it is very hot for them, and when they come to Almaty and other cities of Kazakhstan, this is a severe test for them.

The people are friendly, open, except that they are late for meetings, they are not in a hurry. When talking, especially on business, they try not to say “no”, i.e. to refuse guests, this something quite common among Asians. If at the end of the conversation they say “margash” (tomorrow), then consider that this matter can be resolved for a long time.

In Mongolia’s political sphere, there are about ten political parties. The main ones are the Mongolian People’s Party (MPP), commonly called “Reds”. It is made up of several cadres previously active in the Socialist-oriented Mongolian People’s Revolutionary Party (MPRP) and this party is now in power.

The second largest party is the Democratic Party of Mongolia (DPM), commonly known as the “whites”. The country has a parliamentary government. In the last 2020 parliamentary elections, the MPP won and received 66 seats in the Parliament, out of the total 76. It therefore formed a solid parliamentary majority. The President, the Speaker of Parliament and the Prime Minister are all members of People’s Party. Parliamentary elections are held every 4 years, and according to the new amended Constitution, the President is elected for 6 years and for just one mandate. Previously, the president was in charge for 4 years and could have been reelected for a second term.

Under the new government, personnel rotation and leapfrog is going on everywhere, from the minister and governors of aimaks (regions) to technical employees. Accordingly, previously reached agreements are reviewed and drawn up anew, but it is difficult to find the principle of succession of power. In personnel rotations, preference is given not so much to comrades in the party and ideology, but to fellow countrymen, relatives and clans, as they ensure turnout and vote in elections.

There is one special feature in Mongolia’s elections, that distinguish them from those of other countries. Electronic voting is carried out live on TV. From the precinct commissions, the CEC receives information about each aimak every hour. Of course, in some polling stations the voting results can be manually checked selectively, but no particular violations are noticed. It seems that such a procedure of the electoral process is largely democratic and the election results are very difficult to falsify.

Of course, it would be possible to tell a lot of interesting things about Mongolia, since I worked there for more than six years. Those were unforgettable years, very interesting for me. There I discovered Mongolia and its open, friendly, sometimes careless, hospitable people. I would like to wish the people of Mongolia prosperity and well-being, and I hope that I will soon return to the blue-heavenly country.