BARUUN MUKHDAGIIN AM
2014 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Baruun Mukhdagiin Am (BMA) Archaeological Project is an international collaborative research program of survey and excavation in Bulgan province, Central Mongolia, located along the Orkhon Canyon approximately 290km west of the capital city of Ulaanbaatar. The project primarily focuses upon the Xiongnu (“shung-new”) period (300 BCE – 200 CE) in the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am environs through excavations at the main cemetery and ancient herder campsites, and survey of the foothills and river valleys surrounding the cemetery. The Xiongnu formed the first steppe empire of Inner Asia and catalyzed a long history of nomadic polities rising out of the Eurasian steppes to dominate and terrorize their settled agrarian neighbors, best exemplified by Chinggis Khan and the Mongol Horde. The 2014 BMA field season will concentrate on understanding the practices and relationships in life and death that constituted a local mobile pastoral community and how those practices and relationships interfaced with the broader Xiongnu imperial project.

Previous archaeological fieldwork at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am mapped 293 burial surface features in the main Xiongnu cemetery and identified several habitation contexts (presence of surface Xiongnu-period ceramic scatter) within 15km of that cemetery through pedestrian survey. The project’s multidisciplinary approach to these contexts includes bioarchaeological, zooarchaeological, ceramic, and spatial analyses of recovered materials. Volunteers will have the opportunity to participate in mortuary and habitation context excavations, pedestrian survey, and assist with analyses in the field laboratory tent, gaining first-hand experience and training in these core aspects of archaeological research.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

| Project dates: | July 14th to August 28th, 2014 |
| Session 1: | July 14th to August 4th |
| Session 2: | August 7th to August 28th |
| Application Deadline: | May 1st, 2014 |
| Full volunteer contribution deadline: | June 1st, 2014 |
| Acceptance Type: | Rolling; we encourage you to apply early before all available volunteer slots fill up. |

Project directors: Dr. Zagd Batsaikhan (National University of Mongolia), Galdan Ganbaatar (Institute of Archaeology, Mongolian Academy of Sciences), Emma Hite (University of Chicago)

Project type: Mortuary and ephemeral habitation context excavations, Pedestrian survey

Volunteer contribution per session: $1500 for students, $1700 for non-students

CONTACT US

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LOGISTICS

Accommodations

ULAANBAATAR

Volunteers will be housed together in shared rooms of a guesthouse or apartment before the project team moves to the field site and for one night after our return from the field. These accommodations will be modest due to their temporary nature. If you would prefer to stay in a private room in higher-quality hotel or guesthouse at your own expense, we can suggest some options and help you coordinate your plans with the rest of the project team. Depending on when you arrive in Ulaanbaatar, there will not be much time to explore the city before the project departs for the field, although there should be time to change or withdraw money at local banks and ATM and do some quick shopping. A local cell phone will be available for volunteers to contact the coordinator and to make other local calls while in the city. The volunteer contribution does not cover the cost of food and entertainment while in Ulaanbaatar.

BASECAMP

During the majority of their program participation, volunteers will live in the project’s basecamp in rural Mongolia along with other project participants (US and Mongolian staff, Mongolian university students). Field conditions at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am are beautiful but rugged, as the project is located a considerable distance from any towns, permanent infrastructure, or utilities services. Weather is unpredictable and volunteers should be prepared for the extremes of all four seasons. Please consult the List of Required and Recommended Items, as this list will be your best guide to proper preparation for your time at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am. Fieldwork in rural Mongolia is rewarding but challenging, as plans and conditions can change, for better or for worse, at the drop of a hat. A positive, flexible
outlook is essential for all volunteers! Volunteers should be in good physical condition and prepared to undertake a variety of physical tasks related to archaeological research and life at basecamp while remaining in good spirits. Our senior staff have worked with volunteers ranging from senior citizens to first-year college students on previous archaeological projects in Mongolia, and our experience is that a volunteer’s a cheerful attitude and a good work ethic are far more valuable than their physical prowess or previous experience. We want everyone involved to have a positive experience this summer. Our volunteer coordinator will be available to help should any questions or difficulties arise during the course of the project.

**SLEEPING**

Volunteers need to bring their own tents and sleeping bags. Temperature in Mongolia fluctuates rapidly from night to day, even during the height of summer, and our area may experience high winds, rainstorms. During the height of summer, snow and frost are not unheard of during a cold snap. Mongolia is known as the Land of Blue Sky and Mongolians consider themselves blessed by Eternal Blue Heaven. The brilliant blue sky and glorious cloud formations are as beautiful as the sunlight is intense. While Mongolia is generally quite arid, July and August fall during the rainy season. We recommend that you bring a tent that can withstand high winds and heavy rain. While you may get too hot during the day, your sleeping bag should be able to withstand the cold and you should have a decent sleeping pad to insulate you from the ground. Just because it is summer doesn’t mean that it won’t get very cold, especially at night! We strongly urge you to bring enough clothing to deal with all extremes and types of weather. You should bring at least one set of thermals or long underwear, cold weather hat and gloves, socks of both thin and heavy weight, sweaters or Polar Fleece zip-ups, long pants, a rain slicker or poncho, and other clothes for layering. Layering is the key to dealing with Mongolia’s temperamental weather! Please consult the List of Required and Recommended Items for more details.
EATING AND DRINKING

Our project cooks will prepare, serve, and clean up after three meals a day from staples of the traditional Mongolian diet: mutton or goat, rice, noodles, and potatoes, supplemented with vegetables. Prospective volunteers with special dietary requirements should consult with project directors during the application process. Many foreigners find camp food bland and repetitive. Volunteers are encouraged to bring some favorite spices and seasonings from home (like A-1 sauce or curry powder) to liven up their meals. All project participants will share communal utensils, dishes, bowls, and cups. Bring a cheap set with you and don’t be surprised if others use them. There may be opportunities to buy snacks and cold drinks from small towns in the area but don’t count on them, as they are beyond walking distance from the project area. Bringing some favorite snacks and treats from home is a great idea: dried fruit, peanut butter, Nutella, hard candy, powdered drink flavoring, and other small, light items will improve your experience in the field. Tums and multi-vitamins, though more medicinal, will help you adjust to a different diet. When visiting the homes and festivals of local herders during project ‘weekends’, you may be fortunate enough to be offered samples of traditional Mongolian cuisine, such as aruul (sweet hardened cheese curds), suutei tsai (‘milky tea’ – the recipe varies by region and household), uruum (cooked cream spread), and airag (fermented mare’s milk, a particular specialty of the project’s region). Our volunteer coordinator and senior staff will discuss the relevant etiquette and traditions before each visit, but volunteers are expected to politely sample and praise the home-cooking of our generous Mongolian hosts.

The project will draw its water from the Orkhon River and its tributaries for cooking, cleaning, bathing, and drinking. Volunteers will need to purify their own water with a water purification system (pump, filter, etc.) brought from home. Bring a replacement filter and/or water purification tablets as a backup in case your equipment fails or gets damaged. You may wish to organize with other volunteers to purchase and share a water filtration pump in order to defray costs. Water purification tablets are an acceptable water purification system if you plan to participate for only one session. Staying hydrated is hugely important, especially while working under the hot summer sun. You need to drink at least 3 liters of water every day, likely more if it’s particularly hot or you’ve been working hard. Therefore, you will need to bring enough bottles for water purification and storage totaling at least 3 liters.

The meat in our diet will come from goat and sheep purchased from local herders, which will be slaughtered and butchered at basecamp and hung and prepared in the kitchen tent. These animals lead free-range, all-natural lives and their meat should be appreciated. If you are uncomfortable with animal slaughter, butchery, or seeing parts of an animal hanging to dry, you should reconsider your plan to participate in this project. These activities and sights are a fundamental reality of the mobile pastoral lifeway in modern Mongolia, so you may see them at basecamp, during visits to the homes of local herders, or during project excursions. As a member of the 2014 BMA team, you will be expected to keep any negative reactions or opinions to these and other aspects of Mongolian life yourself in order not to offend or upset our Mongolian colleagues and hosts. Our project aims to build and continue positive, ethical relations with the local community at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am, and as representatives of our project, volunteers will act accordingly.
FACILITIES

Clean is a relative term. Part of archaeological fieldwork involves getting dirty and being comfortable with few amenities, lower standards of cleanliness, and breaking out of your normal routine. All of this will be especially true for our expedition to rural Mongolia.

There is no plumbing at the BMA basecamp or anywhere within a few hours’ drive of the project area. The project will transport water from nearby rivers to the basecamp and project participants will have opportunities to bathe in the Orkhon River upon occasion. Bring a swimsuit, sandals, biodegradable and environment-friendly soap, a towel, and other personal hygiene supplies (toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, moisturizing lotion, chapstick: see the List of Required and Recommended Items) as necessary. Project participants will launder their own clothes with laundry bar soap brought from home (biodegradable, environment-friendly) in containers, buckets, and wheelbarrows provided by the project. Clothes should dry relatively quickly during the day if hung over a tent or on a small clothesline.

There will be pit toilets (protected on three sides by a canvas screen) at the basecamp and ‘steppe toilets’ (ravines, depressions) during project fieldwork and excursions. In addition to other personal supplies, volunteers are encouraged to bring soft toilet paper from home and travel-sized containers of hand sanitizer, Handi-wipes, facial wipes, and Kleenex. Those who are overly modest or concerned about cleanliness are encouraged to think hard about the realities of project participation.

In addition to individual tents occupied by project participants, basecamp will consist of several larger tents for meal preparation, laboratory analyses, and storage for research materials and equipment. Volunteers should not bring any electronic items that cannot be powered by batteries, as there will be no available electrical source at basecamp or within the project area. Bring enough batteries to power your personal devices, especially your flashlight. Please also include some extra batteries (AA and AAA) for emergencies and to share with other project participants. You may wish to bring a solar charger for your batteries or electronics, as many local herders in the area power their TV sets and charge their cell phones in this way. There is neither internet access nor reliable cell phone reception within the project area. Our project participants can make calls from county seats, but these are several hours away by car and international calling rates apply. Volunteers should not count on communicating with the outside world while on the project.

Access to healthcare in rural Mongolia is very limited and medical care quality in Mongolia is not comparable to that in the US. Minor problems will be dealt with as well as possible at the project basecamp. Volunteers need to bring some supplies with them: Band-Aids of all sizes, antibacterial disinfectant (Neosporin, iodine wipes), Ibuprofen (or comparable), Tums, Pepto-bismol tablets, Immodium, insect repellant, Aloe gel, and any prescriptions and personal healthcare items that you made need for the entirety of your time in Mongolia. Please consult the List of Required and Recommended Items for more on this subject. More serious problems and injuries will be stabilized as best as possible until the injured party can be transported back to Ulaanbaatar. Volunteers must have Emergency Medical Evacuation coverage for the duration of their participation in the project. Proof of Emergency Medical Evacuation coverage must be presented to one of the project directors on the first day of your session. Any volunteer who fails to present appropriate proof will forfeit their volunteer contribution and be barred from the project. This policy is for your own safety, health, and well-being. Mongolian healthcare providers usually do not accept foreign
insurance coverage. You will need to discuss the particulars of your situation with your health insurance provider so that you know what would be involved if you needed emergency or regular medical care in Mongolia. This is your responsibility to organize and pay for as a volunteer; we will assist you in Mongolia but the project is not liable for any accident, injury, or illness you suffer as a volunteer. Please consult the BMA 2014 project Waiver (Release/Assumption of Risk form) for more information about insurance and health issues.

Travel Information

**International travel and any trips not pertaining to the BMA 2014 project in Mongolia are not covered by volunteer project fees.** If you are delayed at any point during your travel to Mongolia, please contact the project directors and/or volunteer coordinator via e-mail and/or phone. We will provide you with emergency contact numbers before you leave for Mongolia.

Mongolia does not officially require foreigners to present any verification of immunizations for entry into the country. Mongolia’s extreme continental climate means that most of the more dangerous infectious diseases transmitted by insect/pest, air, food, and/or drink are not an issue. The project recommends but does not require the following vaccinations: Hepatitis A&B, rabies, tetanus, typhoid, and diphtheria. Volunteers should consult their healthcare provider and the Center for Disease Control ([http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/mongolia](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/mongolia)) for more information about health and medical issues related to their participation at BMA 2014.
AIR TRAVEL

Flying is the easiest way to get to Mongolia. Flights from Beijing, Seoul, Hong Kong, Tokyo, and Moscow arrive and depart from the Buyant-Ukhaa International Airport in Ulaanbaatar. There are no direct flights from the Americas or Western Europe to Mongolia at this time. Check with your airline company about baggage fees (some airlines require you to pick up and re-check your bags in your connecting city), transfer policies, and visa requirements for your city/cities of transit. Project representatives will meet you at the airport in Ulaanbaatar after you’ve gone through passport control and claimed your baggage. After you claim your baggage, do not leave the waiting area or your bags, and do not go with anyone unless they are a project representative and/or a Mongolian official. You will have the cell phone contact information for our volunteer coordinator should you need to contact us while at the airport in Ulaanbaatar.

OTHER OPTIONS

Travelers can reach Ulaanbaatar by train from Beijing or via the Trans-Siberian railway. These options are more time-consuming but worthwhile if you are up for an adventure. Please notify project directors well in advance if you do not intend to fly to Mongolia so that we can plan to pick you up at the main passenger train station in Ulaanbaatar. Russian and Chinese visas are required for US citizens traveling via train; you will need to plan far ahead to sort out these overland routes of travel.

GETTING AROUND ULAANBAATAR

Our volunteer coordinator and one of our project drivers will pick you up from the airport, take you to get registered at Mongolian Immigration, and drop you off at the project guesthouse/apartment in Ulaanbaatar. Please do not plan to arrive in Mongolia more than 24 hours before your project session starts unless you are prepared to get registered at Immigration without us. Downtown Ulaanbaatar is traversable on foot and is also served by buses, trolleybuses, and taxis. As noted previously, volunteers will not have a lot of time to explore the city before the project heads out to basecamp. While you are a project volunteer, you are advised to stay in the company of other project members if you want to explore Ulaanbaatar. Be prepared for delays and difficult traffic conditions when traveling in, out of, and through Ulaanbaatar by car or bus.

GETTING TO BARUUN MUKHDAGIIN AM

The project will form a convoy of jeeps, SUVs, and vans to travel the ~290km from Ulaanbaatar to our basecamp in Mogod county (soum), Bulgan province (aimag). The road west is now paved for a good distance but expect difficult traffic while getting out of the city and rough road (or off-road) conditions after a certain point. Riding in project vehicles is not particularly comfortable, especially when going off-road. There are no paved or formal roads within a few hours of the Baruun Mukhdagiiin Am basecamp, so be prepared for a rough, bumpy ride. Those prone to carsickness are recommended to take precautions. The convoy will stop for lunch and bathroom breaks during the trip out and back to Ulaanbaatar.

Official Documents

PASSPORT

Your passport must be valid for at least six months after your planned departure date from Mongolia. If you do not currently hold a passport, start the application process now, as it can take some time for the US government to process and mail your passport.
VISAS

US citizens do not need a Visa to stay in Mongolia for 90 days or less. However, as mentioned above, you do need to register with Mongolian Immigration. Our volunteer coordinator will assist you with that process after your arrival in Ulaanbaatar. If you are not a US citizen, it is your responsibility to look up the Visa requirements for your country of citizenship as they apply to Mongolia.

Please bring two color photocopies of the first two pages of your passport (the pages with your photo and personal information) and four standard-sized passport photos with you to Mongolia. You will need these documents to register at Mongolian Immigration. We encourage you to pack those materials and your passport in your carry-on luggage or on your person (whichever is safer) to prevent delays and keep your important documents safe. If you arrive in Mongolia more than 24 hours before the start of your project session, it will be your responsibility to register yourself with Mongolian Immigration. Those volunteers arriving early to explore Ulaanbaatar or participate in other activities in Mongolia, such as a horse trek or the annual naadam celebrations, should ask their guesthouse or travel agent for assistance with this process.

Project Description

Research Context

The Baruun Mukhdagiin Am project area is located in Mogod county (soum), Bulgan province (aimag), Central Mongolia. This area is currently home to modern Mongolian herding communities who raise and tend flocks of sheep, goat, horse, and cattle, and generally live in traditional ger (moveable circular tents constructed of wooden frames, felt, and white canvas). The project area demarcates the northeastern end of the Orkhon alluvial
plain, a long-term center of human habitation and political activity in Mongolia dating back at least to the Bronze Age. Archaeological and historical sites from the Bronze Age, the Xiongnu period, the Turk period, the Uyghur khaganate, and the Mongol Empire dot the broader region. The BMA project is focused on the archaeological features and artefacts dating from the Xiongnu period (approx. 300 BCE to 200 CE).

At the end of the Late Iron Age, mobile pastoral communities in Mongolia organized into the Xiongnu Empire, the original great steppe empire of a long series of regimes that have transformed Eurasia over the past two millennia. The Xiongnu first appear in Chinese imperial texts as a rising power on the northern Qin frontier after the 209 BCE consolidation of power by Maodun (Modun). Their status as a geopolitical power-house of eastern and Inner Asia was cemented after a series of military victories and territorial expansions, extending their influence beyond modern-day Mongolia through imperial conquest, trade, and treaties. Xiongnu mortuary and habitation contexts are scattered across Mongolia, southern Siberia, and northern China, while Han historical texts provide accounts of the imperial leadership and broader movements of the Xiongnu.

Constructed where the Orkhon River transitions into a stunning canyon, the main Xiongnu cemetery upon which the BMA 2014 project will focus its mortuary excavations appears to be divided into four primary sectors with an impressive diversity of surface burial features. Previous preliminary excavations in 2006 revealed well-preserved human and animal remains associated with material culture and tomb construction generally found in Xiongnu elite cemeteries in Mongolia. Survey in 2013 of the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am environs within a 20-km radius of the main Xiongnu cemetery revealed ceramic sherd scatters indicative of ancient herder campsites. The sherds obtained from surface recovery methods are consistent with ceramic typology of the Xiongnu period.
Research Objectives

SITE DISTRIBUTION PATTERNS AND SEASONALITY

How the Xiongnu community at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am inhabited the landscape is currently unknown. Results from the 2013 pilot survey indicate that Xiongnu habitation contexts are likely to be found in proximity to modern Mongolian seasonal herder encampments. However, methodical, intensive survey using both surface and subsurface recovery methods are required to investigate whether such spatial patterning is the result of observer bias or representative of actual archaeological evidence of past behaviors. The project will conduct intensive non-random targeted pedestrian survey and deploy methods that yielded high recovery rates in previous archaeological surveys in Central Mongolia. The project will primarily use zooarchaeological data to determine the seasonality of habitation and mortuary contexts in order to determine the seasons of occupation or construction for features throughout Baruun Mukhdagiin Am. Seasonality data correlated to site distribution data should indicate seasonality and mobility patterns of the community.

MOBILE PASTORALISM

There is a widespread hypothesis that a significant portion of the Xiongnu Empire’s population in what is today Mongolia were mobile pastoralists. In order to test this hypothesis at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am, the project will conduct excavations at several Xiongnu habitation contexts as well as excavations within the main Xiongnu cemetery. Data from habitation contexts will be used to help elucidate the daily patterns of Xiongnu community life as seen in the spatial distribution of artefacts, animal remains, and architectural features. These data are hypothesized to be consistent with a form of mobile pastoralism that may form the basis of a local subsistence economy or that may focus on the production of certain pastoral products, indicative of community-level economic specialization and a certain degree of centralized decision making. The project will also use the zooarchaeological assemblage recovered from mortuary context excavations to contextualize the everyday economic baseline yielded from habitation contexts. A primary question will be whether the animals interred in mortuary contexts represent mortality profiles (age-at-death and sex by species) consistent with the habitation contexts assemblage.

MORTUARY RITUAL, POLITICAL IDEOLOGY, & COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

The main Xiongnu cemetery at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am has surface features and material culture consistent with elite mortuary practice within the Xiongnu Empire. The 2013 pilot project and previous excavations in 2006 revealed evidence that the cemetery itself is composed of non-random groupings of burial features, themselves often composed of clusters of individual surface features. Such groupings in other Xiongnu cemeteries have been interpreted as indicative of dynastic or kinship groupings within the community or imperial-level elite. One goal of mortuary excavations is to examine such clusters through thorough excavation methods for the possibility of such political and kinship relationships at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am. Mortuary practice occurs in a series of events – initial burials, funerary feasts, later commemorative practices, and later burials or sacrificial buried offerings – that build up over time into the cemetery as we see it today. The project’s examination of mortuary contexts at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am aims to better understand these events and the relationships between those events as the processes by which a local political community constituted itself over time. Variations and similarities between these mortuary events and contexts in terms of construction type, material assemblage, bioarchaeological
profile, and zooarchaeological assemblage will be used to investigate the aspects of these processes that were most significant for the Xiongnu community at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am.

Another aspect of Xiongnu cemeteries observed during the 2006 preliminary excavations is the consistent association of human and animal remains in the main tomb chamber. Xiongnu mortuary space and ritual feature the consistent association of humans and animals (usually the domesticated herd animals of modern Mongolia) but the significance of such association has not been fully explored. Furthermore, mortuary ritual and political ideology of funerary practices involving the co-mingling of humans and animals in Xiongnu cemeteries have not been analyzed in the broader context of economic production and social life within a mobile pastoral community. The project is therefore particularly interested in viewing Xiongnu mortuary and habitation contexts holistically through the relationships between humans and animals in both life and death at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am. Contextualized zooarchaeological and bioarchaeological data, combining spatial information and association with other material culture, will be used to explore the material dimensions of these relationships.
Senior Staff

Zagd BATSAIKHAN (Ph.D.) is a senior professor in the Department of Archaeology & Anthropology at the National University of Mongolia. Dr. Batsaikhan is one of the foremost experts on Xiongnu archaeology and has conducted numerous expeditions throughout Mongolia, including at Egiin Gol, Tamiryn Ulaan Khoshoo, and Delgerkhan Uul. He particularly specializes in the excavation and analysis of Xiongnu mortuary contexts.

Galdan GANBAATAR (M.A.) is a researcher at the Institute of Archaeology within the Mongolian National Academy of Sciences. Mr. Ganbaatar has extensive field and laboratory research experience and specializes in survey as well as spatial and ceramic analyses.

Emma HITE (M.A.) is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago. She is currently a 2013-2014 Fulbright IIE research fellow in Mongolia conducting dissertation research. Ms. Hite specializes in bioarchaeological and zooarchaeological analyses, and archaeological theory.

Bukhchuluun DASHZEVEG is an archaeologist and technology expert with the Institute of Archaeology at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. He specializes in archaeological heritage and cultural resource management, as well as technical and academic translation of written and spoken Mongolian, English, and Russian.

Project Activities

FIELDWORK AT BARUUN MUKHDAGIIN AM

The 2014 field season at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am will include non-random targeted pedestrian survey, excavation of Xiongnu habitation contexts identified in 2013 by surface ceramic scatter, excavation of Xiongnu mortuary contexts at the main cemetery, and field analyses of recovered archaeological materials in the laboratory tent. Volunteers will primarily work in teams with other project participants on survey and excavation at habitation and/or mortuary contexts. All project participants will work **8 hours a day, 5.5 days a week**, with one half and one full day of rest. Project staff will provide training in necessary techniques and methods for whichever archaeological task you are undertaking: survey (auguring, screening, mapping, proper artifact collection and recording) and excavation at mortuary and habitation contexts (trenching, identifying and clearing features, recording contextual information, mapping, proper removal and recording of artifactual, bioarchaeological, and zooarchaeological materials). When excavation teams have recovered enough archaeological materials, interested volunteers will have the opportunity to observe or assist in laboratory analyses under the supervision of senior staff and researchers. This field
season there will be a particular emphasis on bioarchaeological and zooarchaeological research.

All volunteers will need to wear good supportive footwear during project fieldwork. Suitable shoes for the workday include hiking boots, steel-toed work boots, and other lace-up shoes with a good tread that protect your toes and ankles (sneakers, trainers, and open-toed shoes are not acceptable). Survey may require you to walk up to 5 miles a day over uneven, sometimes hilly terrain while carrying survey equipment (including but not limited to an augur, trowel, small screen, notebook, and several liters of water) in your daypack. Excavation often requires you to work on your hands and knees, moving dirt by shovel, trowel, or hand into buckets and screens. Excavation is dusty, dirty, thirsty work; we recommend you wear a bandana over your mouth, gardening gloves, and knee guards or pads. While survey and excavation require decent physical condition and include a regular amount of activity, the workload is only moderate. As noted elsewhere, the weather is extremely variable in Mongolia but intense sunlight and hot days are the norm during summer time. In a steppe environment there is no natural shade or cover from the sun. Thus, a brimmed hat is required and sunglasses, light-weight, light-colored long-sleeved shirts and pants are highly recommended. Volunteers must bring and wear adequate amounts of sunscreen (SPF 30+) in addition to staying hydrated throughout the day.

Families in the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am vicinity tend herds of sheep, goat, cattle, and/or horses, all of whom may at one time or another pass through project worksites as part of their daily routine. People with a fear of animals are discouraged from attending, as herd animals roam free in rural Mongolia, even across our dig sites and occasionally through basecamp. All project participants will be respectful and polite when local herders drop by for unannounced visits as good relations with our hosts and neighbors is a key part of the project’s philosophy. If you are so inclined and particularly lucky, you may be offered a ride on a Mongolian horse in a traditional wooden saddle.
PROJECT ‘WEEKENDS’

In addition to archaeological fieldwork, volunteers will have the opportunity to visit sites and events of interest on project days of rest. These include:

- Visits to a local herding family. Families in the vicinity of Baruun Mukhdagiin Am live in traditional Mongolian ger. This particular part of Mongolia is famous for its fermented mare’s milk (airag), an unusual beverage that you won’t find many places elsewhere in the world! Guests arriving at a family’s ger are traditionally offered some snacks and drinks and guests in turn offer something for the family. We recommend that you bring candy, gum, or small treats as a ‘guest gift’ to the family. These visits are contingent upon the availability and receptiveness of local herding families. Moreover, volunteers are expected to be on their best behavior during home visits and we will discuss proper Mongolian and ger etiquette with you beforehand.

-Sight-seeing at archaeological and historical sites in the area. The Orkhon Valley and Central Mongolia are long-term centers of culture and civilization. From the capitals of the Gokturk khaganate, the Uyghur khaganate, and the Mongol Empire, to Bronze and Iron age ritual and burial complexes such as deer stones, khirigsuurs, rock art, and slab burials, this region is host to a great variety of features from Mongolia’s archaeological and historical heritage. At least one senior staff member will be present to provide information about the time period, archaeological culture, and architectural features of each sight-seeing trip.

-Excursions to nearby areas renowned for their natural beauty. The Baruun Mukhdagiin Am basecamp and research area are both located in Mogod county, Bulgan province, Mongolia. Our project area runs along part of the spectacular Orkhon Canyon, with rugged cliffs and
rushing blue-green water dotted occasionally by large swans. There are foothills and small mountains to the east and south, some of which are wooded with birch and short pine trees. The steppe rolls along the valleys and small hills, broken up by small rivers, and is home to the herds and round white ger of the local community.

-Festivals organized by the local herding community. Summer is naadam season, the main summer holiday in Mongolia, celebrated in Ulaanbaatar this year from July 11th–13th. Naadam traditionally includes the Three Manly Sports – wrestling, archery, and horse-racing – some of which we may see at local naadam celebrations in Bulgan province. This time of year there are also small airag (fermented mare’s milk) festivals held in the area. These events are rare opportunities for foreigners to experience rural community life in Mongolia and celebrate the best of summer with our generous hosts and neighbors.

Project Bibliography

***There are no required readings for volunteers on the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am Archaeological Project***

Interested volunteers may wish to consult the following scholarly sources in order to enhance their experience in the field:

**Recommended**
[All sources are in English]


Supplementary

Ban Gu. Hanshu [Records/Annals of the Han].


Batsaikhan, Z., nd. Unpublished project report on preliminary excavations at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am, Bulgan aimag.


Honeychurch, W., Amartuvshin, Ch., 2007. Hinterlands, urban centers, and mobile settings: the new ‘Old World’ archaeology from the Eurasian steppe. Asian Perspectives 46 (1), 36-64.


Kradin, N.N., Skrynnikova, T.D., 2006. Why do we call Chinggis Khan’s polity ‘an empire”? Ab imperio 1,
89-118.


Volunteer

Volunteer Contribution

Each session:
$1500 for students (proof of enrollment required with application)
$1700 for non-students

Volunteers interested in participating for both project sessions should indicate this in their application. Project directors will discuss this option with you during the application process.

A deposit of $250 will be due as part of the volunteer application. This deposit counts towards your total project contribution. **FULL payment of volunteer contribution must be received by June 1st**. If you are not accepted, your deposit will be refunded. If you are accepted and subsequently withdraw more than 45 days before the beginning of the first session, 50% of your deposit will be refunded. If you withdraw 45 days or less before the beginning of the first session, no refund will be made. If the project is cancelled, your complete deposit and/or contribution will be refunded.

The volunteer contribution covers the costs of:
- transportation to and from the project field site in Bulgan province and the capital city, Ulaanbaatar.
- accommodations in Ulaanbaatar*
- airport pick-up in Ulaanbaatar*
- transportation to and assistance with registering at Mongolian Immigration*
- archaeological field training
- 3 meals a day while in the field
- transportation and planning for project ‘weekend’ excursions

Contribution does not cover international travel expenses, visas, medical/health insurance, any personal supplies or equipment (including tents and sleeping bags), or any costs not specified above. Please contact us if you have any questions.

*These expenses are only covered under the volunteer contribution for the dates and locations specified for each project session. For the first session (July 14th to August 4th), the nights of July 13th and 14th and August 4th; for the second session (August 7th to August 28th), the nights of August 6th, 7th, and 28th.

Contact Us
Please feel free to contact us with your questions about volunteering with the BMA 2014 Archaeological Project.

E-mail: Emma Hite at bma.project.2014@gmail.com

Mailing address: Center for the Study of Eurasian Nomads
c/o Jeannine Davis-Kimball, PhD
2158 Palomar Ave
Ventura, CA 93001
VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Fill out the Volunteer and Medical Information sections of this form

2) Complete the two Short Essays either by typing into this form or attaching them as a separate file

3) Prepare your CV, a list of two references, and a color copy of the first two pages of your passport (the page including your photo and personal information)

4) Each attached file should be clearly labelled with your FULL NAME on the first page of the document. Your attachments may be in Word or PDF format

5) Submit your $250 deposit to:

   Center for the Study of Eurasian Nomads
   c/o Jeannine Davis-Kimball, PhD
   2158 Palomar Ave
   Ventura, CA 93001

   Make the check to: “CSEN” and write: “BMA 2014 volunteer deposit” in the Subject/Detail line. Please put your full name somewhere on the check or in a note along with the deposit. This deposit holds your place in the queue of BMA 2014 applicants and will be used towards your total volunteer contribution. In the event that you are not accepted as a volunteer or that the project is cancelled, your deposit will be fully refunded. If you are accepted and subsequently withdraw more than 45 days before the beginning of the first session, 50% of your deposit will be refunded. If you withdraw 45 days or less before the beginning of the first session, no refund will be made.

   ***If you would prefer to pay your deposit via Pay Pal, please let us know***

6) E-mail your complete volunteer application and all attached documents to:
   bma.project.2014@gmail.com

   The BMA project accepts volunteer applications on a rolling basis. We thus encourage you to apply early before all available slots fill up. You should expect to hear a decision regarding your application approximately two weeks after all of your application materials – electronic and hard-copy versions – have been received.

   If you are accepted as a volunteer for the 2014 field season of the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am archaeological project, you will need to submit a check for the remainder of your volunteer contribution (to the mailing address listed above) by June 1st. Signed copies of the Volunteer Waiver (Release/Assumption of Risk form) and the Code of Conduct (part of the BMA 2014 project handout) will be due by the first day of your project session. You may either e-mail these documents to bma.project.2014@gmail.com or bring hard copies with you to Mongolia.
Please let the project directors know if you have any questions about the application form, necessary attached documents, or the application process. We prefer to contact you by e-mail (bma.project.2014@gmail.com). Please notify us if your e-mail address changes after you have submitted an application.

1. Volunteer Information

First name:__________________________________________
Middle name:_______________________________________
Last name:__________________________________________
Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY):__________________________
Citizenship:________________________________________
Current address:____________________________________
City:________________________________________________
State/Province:_____________________________________
Country:___________________________________________
Zip/Postal code:____________________________________
Mailing address if different from above:

Home phone:________________________________________
Work phone:________________________________________
Mobile:____________________________________________
E-mail address:_____________________________________;
Social Security Number:________________________________
Sex:________________________________________________
Height:____________________________________________
Weight:____________________________________________
Passport number:____________________________________
Type:_______________________________________________
Expiration date:____________________________________
Employer or school:________________________________
Address of employer/school:

Emergency contact

Name:________________________________________________
Relationship:________________________________________
E-mail:_____________________________________________
Telephone:__________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________

Contact number for employer/school:

If retired, former employer’s contact information:
Session(s) of participation – fill in table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st choice</th>
<th>2nd choice</th>
<th>3rd choice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1 (July 14-Aug 4)</td>
<td>Session 2 (Aug 8-Aug 28)</td>
<td>Both sessions (July 14-Aug 28)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How did you hear about our project?

2. Medical Information

Medical treatment will not be equal to the norm in the US. The remote nature of the project field site means that volunteers cannot expect quick or easy access to medical care. Please be sure to list all special medical conditions you may have. You must bring any prescription or over the counter medications that you require for the full extent of your time in Mongolia. See the Waiver (Release/Assumption of Risk form) for more details.

a) List any medical condition that you have or have had in the past five years, including hospitalizations and medical procedures (with their dates).

b) Volunteer health information

-Blood type:
-Date of last physical examination:
-Do you wear corrective or contact lenses?
-Loss of consciousness [please explain the circumstances and give date(s)]:

-Special diet or foods*:

-Other health concerns, such as a bad back, trick knee, etc. (please describe in detail):

-Any other pertinent medical or health-related information:

-Current type of health insurance coverage**:

c) Check and describe any that are applicable

-Diabetes:
-Epilepsy:
-Allergies (please list):
*If you dietary requirements are different than noted in the information provided on the Web pages associated with this application, you should plan on bringing any required (or desired) foods.

**By the time you arrive in Mongolia, you must have insurance coverage that explicitly includes Emergency Medical Evacuation for the duration of your participation in the program. Volunteers who do not present proof of their insurance coverage on the first day of their session will have to withdraw from the project and forfeit all volunteer fees. This will be for your own safety and well-being, and the project will not willingly or knowingly allow its participants to put themselves in jeopardy.

You may attach additional pages as needed to complete the information requested in the first two sections.

3. Short Essays
Instructions: Each essay should be no more than two pages, double-spaced in length. You may type your essays into this form or attach them as a separate Word or PDF document. Please clearly label each essay a) or b).

a) Special Interests: Describe your particular interest in this project, and what experience(s) you have had that might be helpful in terms of your participation as a volunteer. Please list all pertinent educational or personal background.

b) Previous Travel: Briefly describe any previous foreign travel experiences, including which countries you have visited and when, and what you did while abroad.

4. Attached Documents
a) CV

b) Two references with professional title, occupation and place of employment, telephone, mailing address, and e-mail information listed. These should be from current or former teachers, employers, academic advisors, instructors, supervisors, and other people who know you in a professional, academic, or volunteer/philanthropic capacity. Family and friends cannot provide references.

c) A color copy of the first two pages of your passport, which may be in jpg, jpeg, or PDF format.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Mail your $250 deposit to:

   Center for the Study of Eurasian Nomads
c/o Jeannine Davis-Kimball, PhD
2158 Palomar Ave
Ventura, CA 93001
Make the check to: “CSEN” and write: “BMA 2014 volunteer deposit” in the Subject/Detail line. This deposit holds your place in the queue of BMA 2014 applicants and will be used towards your total volunteer contribution. In the event that you are not accepted as a volunteer or that the project is cancelled, your deposit will be fully refunded. If you are accepted and subsequently withdraw more than 45 days before the beginning of the first session, 50% of your deposit will be refunded. If you withdraw 45 days or less before the beginning of the first session, no refund will be made.

2) E-mail your complete application to: bma.project.2014@gmail.com

3) The BMA project accepts volunteer applications on a rolling basis. We thus encourage you to apply early before all available slots fill up. You should expect to hear a decision regarding your application approximately two weeks after all of your application materials – including your deposit – have been received. If you are accepted as a volunteer for the 2014 field season of the Baruun Mukhdagii Am Archaeological Project, you will need to read, sign, and submit the Volunteer Waiver (Release/Assumption of Risk form) and the Code of Conduct via e-mail to bma.project.2014@gmail.com by the first day of your project session. Both documents are part of the BMA 2014 volunteer handout. You will also need to mail a check for the remainder of your volunteer contribution to the mailing address listed above by June 1st. Please contact us if you have any questions about this process.
LIST OF REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED ITEMS

Required Items
In the event that a BMA project volunteer does not have the Required Items by the date stipulated below, the volunteer will have to withdraw from the project and forfeit his/her volunteer contribution. This policy is for the safety and well-being of the volunteer, as it will be an extreme hardship or even impossible to participate in the BMA archaeological project without the Required Items. Please contact us with your questions **before leaving for Mongolia** ([bma.project.2014@gmail.com](mailto:bma.project.2014@gmail.com)).

**Due by May 1st**
- Passport* valid for at least 6 months after your departure date from Mongolia.
- Color copy of the two first pages of your Passport

**Due by June 1st**
- Volunteer contribution paid in full

*By the first day of your project session*
- Proof of medical insurance coverage for duration of project participation that specifically includes Emergency Medical Evacuation
- 4 standard Passport photos
- Proof of registration with Mongolian Immigration (our Volunteer Coordinator will assist you with this process if you arrive within the stipulated dates)
- Signed project **Waiver (Release/Assumption of Risk form)**
- Signed volunteer **Code of Conduct**
- **Tent** that can withstand high winds, rainstorms
- **Sleeping bag** (warm enough for temperatures below 32F)
- Water purification system – filter and/or tablets, bottle(s) that hold a combined minimum of 3 liters
- Flashlight
- Close-toed shoes for fieldwork (hiking boots, steel-toed work boots, etc.)
- Hat with brim for protection from sun
- Rain slicker/poncho with hood
- **Adequate clothing** (see Recommendations below and be prepared for all possible weather conditions!)
- Archaeological supplies:
  - trowel (Marshall town)
  - plumb bob
  - string
  - small notebook (scientific lab notebook style, not a binder)
  - pens, pencils, and Sharpies
  - line level
  - duct tape
  - AA and AAA batteries
  - Ziploc bags (sandwich-, quart-, and gallon-sized) – bring some extras to store your personal items and keep them safe from dirt, dust, and moisture
- Field mess kit: bowl, spoon, fork, and cup that will get put into rotation in the kitchen tent. The cup should be able to handle hot liquids. These items do not have to be high-quality.
- Small backpack for fieldwork and day trips
-Any personal medications or prescriptions that you are currently taking or will need while in the field; **you will not be able to get them in Mongolia**
-Sunscreen (SPF 30 minimum)
-Additional personal supplies (see Recommendations below)

*if you are not a US citizen, it is your responsibility to look up the Mongolian visa and immigration requirements for your country of citizenship. Please notify the project directors in your application if you are not a US citizen.

**Recommended Items**

These recommendations are based on the personal experiences of Western volunteers on previous archaeological expeditions in Mongolia. Many of the items listed below are Required Items for most volunteers but your individual mileage may vary. Use your judgment when preparing for Baruun Mukhdagiin Am, as this list is not intended to be exhaustive. We want our volunteers to have the best possible experience at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am. You will have a much better time if you’re properly dressed and equipped! Volunteers must be completely prepared for the field season on the first day of their project session, including all clothing, equipment, and personal supplies. Do not count on being able to borrow these items from other project participants or necessarily being able to purchase them in Ulaanbaatar. Please contact us **before you leave for Mongolia** if you have any questions.

**CLOTHING:**
- Full-length canvas or khaki pants for project work (at least 2 pairs)
- Old men’s dress shirts in light colors to wear for project against sun and dirt
- Short-sleeved shirts and/or tank tops
- Long-sleeved shirts
- Shorts
- Thermals or long underwear
- Hiking socks
- Sunglasses
- Polar fleece or wool sweaters
- Swim suit
- Bandanas
- Sandals for relaxing at basecamp and bathing in the river
- Gloves and hat for cold nights

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL:**
- Work gloves
- Knee pad for excavation
- Clip board
- Compass

**PERSONAL:**
- Insect repellant
- Ibuprofen, Advil
- Tums, Pepto-Bismol tablets
- Band-Aids of all sizes
Baruun Mukhdagiin Am Archaeological Project – Volunteer Handout 2014

-Neosporin, antiseptic/antibacterial wipes for cuts and scrapes
-Personal Rx for Ciprofloxacin
-Personal First-Aid kit (which may contain much of the above)
-Bar laundry soap
-Personal soap
-Shampoo and conditioner
-Pads, tampons
-Toilet paper (the softer stuff from home)
-Travel packs of Kleenex
-Liquid hand sanitizer
-Travel packs of Wet Wipes
-Moisturizer
-Toothpaste, toothbrush, floss
-Chapstick
-Towel – a quick-drying travel towel is preferable
-Hairbrush or comb
-Other toiletries as needed

OTHER:
-Immunizations: Hepatitis A&B, Typhoid, Rabies. The BMA 2014 project recommends but does not require any vaccinations or immunizations for participation this summer. However, you should consult with your healthcare specialist and the CDC for more information (http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/mongolia)
-Secure travel purse or wallet
-Camera
-MP3 player
-Sleeping pad or air mattress (self-inflating)
-Travel alarm clock
-Utility scissors: remember to pack these in your checked baggage or they will get taken away from you!
-ATM card, preferably VISA: you should be able to withdraw Mongolian tugrug from ATM in downtown Ulaanbaatar. It is not possible to purchase Mongolian tugrug in the US at this time. If you choose not to bring an ATM card, bring one or two new, crisp $100 bills to exchange. An old, wrinkled, and or tattered $100 bill will be rejected by both Mongolian banks and money changers! To be on the safe side, you may wish to bring both $100 bills and an ATM card with you to Mongolia. You may need Mongolian tugrug in case of emergency. Moreover, you may wish to have a small amount of spending cash for weekend excursions. You will not be able to change money outside of Ulaanbaatar or reliable use an ATM or credit card
-Travel journal
-Favorite snacks, especially candy, from home to share
-Candy, gum, or stickers to give as a guest present to local herding families and their children
WAIVER

Release and Assumption of Risk

For and in consideration of the opportunity to participate in the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am Archaeological Project in Mongolia in 2014, I release Zagd Batsaikhan, Galdan Ganbaatar, Emma Hite, Bukhchuluun Dashzeveg, and the Center for the Study of Eurasian Nomads from any and all liability for property damage, personal injury, or expenses incurred as a result of injury, illness, or accident that I may experience in the course of this project. I understand that there are many dangers and risks in participating in this project, both because of physical and economic conditions in Mongolia and arising out of archaeological fieldwork generally. These include but are not limited to health risks (rabies, Hepatitis, Giardia), dangers in the environment, extreme weather conditions (flooding, storms, low or high temperatures), injury from other participants (accidental or intentional), injury during the course of archaeological fieldwork (all activities associated with pedestrian survey, excavation, and laboratory analysis), injury during normal activities in rural Mongolia (horseback riding, wrestling, hiking, swimming, interacting with herd animals and guard dogs, interacting with wildlife), inaccessibility to medical care, political unrest, food and water safety, and vehicular accidents. I do not expect the project leaders to protect me from such risks and dangers and I accept full responsibility myself for any and all injury, damage, and associated costs and expenses that may result to me from my participation in the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am Archaeological Project.

Date

Volunteer signature

Print volunteer name
CODE OF CONDUCT

The Baruun Mukhdagiin Am 2014 project Code of Conduct is designed to optimize your experience in the field by preventing any misunderstandings upfront and outlining the project’s expectations of its volunteers. The Code of Conduct is also intended to serve the project’s broader goal of ethical interactions and productive collaboration with our Mongolian colleagues and hosts. Thus, all project volunteers must read and sign the Code of Conduct in order to be eligible to participate in this year’s field season. In the event of a Volunteer’s withdrawal or expulsion from the BMA project for reasons listed in the Code of Conduct, the Volunteer will forfeit his/her volunteer contribution and be personally responsible for all associated expenses, including but not limited to local transportation costs. Print your name below, read through the entire Code of Conduct, and date, print name, and sign on the final page to indicate that you accept the Code of Conduct and will follow its contents throughout your participation in the BMA 2014 project.

I, ________________________________, hereafter the Volunteer, do agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct for volunteers on the Baruun Mukhdagiin Am (BMA) as stipulated below:

1. **Required documents**: the Volunteer will provide all documents required by Project Senior Staff as listed in the volunteer application form by the dates stipulated therein. In the event that the Volunteer fails to present all required documents, the Volunteer will have to withdraw from the project.

2. **Zero-tolerance policies**:
   a. The BMA project has a zero-tolerance policy regarding illegal substances, objects, and activities. These include but are not limited to: participation in the trade of undocumented antiquities, use or transportation of illegal narcotics, weapons, or remains of endangered species, and involvement in any aspect of the sex trade. The Volunteer consents to follow all official laws and regulations of the nation of Mongolia while participating in the project. More details of these laws and regulations can be found at the Embassy of Mongolia to the United States ([http://mongolianembassy.us/](http://mongolianembassy.us/)) and the US Embassy in Mongolia ([http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/service.html](http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/service.html)).
   b. The BMA project has a zero-tolerance policy regarding violent behavior. Any project participant, including the Volunteer, who engages in violent behavior will either be severely reprimanded or immediately required to withdraw from the project, depending on the severity of the behavior and the judgment of the Senior Staff.

3. Violation of the zero-tolerance policies by any project participant, including the Volunteer, may require the offending party to withdraw from the program.

4. The BMA project is led by four senior staff members: Dr. Zagd Batsaikhan, Mr. Galdan Ganbaatar, Ms. Emma Hite, and Mr. Bukhchuluun Dashzeveg (hereafter Senior Staff). The Senior Staff reserve the right to require a Volunteer to withdraw from the program at any time should the Volunteer’s behavior, conduct, or condition threaten the health, safety, or welfare of any project participant, or impede the project’s operation or attainment of its research objectives, at the Volunteer’s own expense.

5. The Volunteer acknowledges that he/she is responsible for bringing the Required, chosen Recommended, and other needed items with him/her to Mongolia. The Volunteer has consulted the Required and Recommended Items list provided by the
The Volunteer has already addressed any questions to the Senior Staff and/or Volunteer Coordinator before leaving Mongolia. The Volunteer understands that, should he/she fail to have any of the Required Items by the evening of the first day of his/her session, the Volunteer will have to withdraw from the project and forfeit his/her volunteer contribution. As these items will be essential for the Volunteer’s health, well-being, and ability to participate in the project, the Volunteer agrees that his/her failure to bring all such items is grounds for withdrawal. The Volunteer acknowledges that the Required Items list is not exhaustive and that it is his/her individual responsibility to come to Mongolia properly prepared for archaeological fieldwork at Baruun Mukhdagiin Am. Therefore, the Volunteer will consult the Recommended Items list, the Volunteer Coordinator, Senior Staff, and his/her own judgment in preparing and bringing all necessary items for participation in the BMA project before departing for Mongolia.

6. The Volunteer agrees to resolve all conflict in a productive and reasonable manner while participating in the BMA project with the assistance of the Volunteer Coordinator and, if necessary, a member of the Senior Staff. The Volunteer therefore has the right to a private 5-10 minute meeting at the end of each project work week with one of the Senior Staff to discuss any project-related matters. The Senior Staff will record on paper the contents of these meetings in order to better serve the interests of the project.

7. The Volunteer understands that it is not acceptable to make negative or hostile statements, engage in negative, hostile, or aggressive behaviors, or to take his/her emotions out on other project participants or members of the local community. The BMA project and its Senior Staff are sympathetic to the stresses associated with archaeological fieldwork in rural Mongolia. However, hostile, disruptive, or negative behaviors or speech will not be tolerated. The Volunteer should consult with the Volunteer Coordinator or request private time when feeling emotionally overwhelmed.

8. The BMA project is safe-space and a harassment-free archaeological expedition. While there are cultural differences between Mongolia and the US, the Senior Staff will do its best to prevent harassing or discriminatory speech or behavior from all project participants, including the Volunteer, and to reprimand or expel serious or serial offenders from the project.

9. The Volunteer promises to maintain a positive attitude, a flexible approach, and a good work ethic to the best of his/her abilities throughout his/her participation in the project. The Volunteer acknowledges that archaeological fieldwork is a stressful undertaking and that the unpredictable conditions in rural Mongolia can exacerbate such stressors. Therefore, the Volunteer will comport him/herself in a friendly, polite manner towards all other BMA project participants and members of the local community irrespective of whether it is a difficult day or if the Volunteer is not feeling his/her best.

10. The Volunteer agrees to be on his/her best behavior when visiting with members of the local herding communities in rural Mongolia, whether during project excursions or when community members visit the project worksite or basecamp. The Volunteer pledges to abide by the BMA project’s overarching commitment to ethical and friendly interactions with our Mongolian hosts.

11. The Volunteer will inform the Volunteer Coordinator in the event that he/she feels unwell or has experienced an injury. The BMA project is not equipped with a medic but intends to provide its participants with some basic medical care, such as Band-Aids, an emergency blanket, and antiseptic wipes. The lack of proper medical care
and facilities within the project area necessitate that the Volunteer immediately inform the Volunteer Coordinator of any health issues or concerns. The BMA project will do its best to stabilize the Volunteer for his/her transportation back to Ulaanbaatar, where better medical care is available. However, the BMA project and Senior Staff are not liable for any accidents or illnesses that befall the Volunteer during the project. Any costs or expenses associated with a BMA project participant, including the Volunteer, falling ill, getting injured, or having an accident during the course of their participation in the BMA project will be his/her sole individual responsibility. The Volunteer has read, understood, and signed the Waiver/Release and Assumption of Risk form, which contains more information on this point.

I, the above-named Volunteer, have read through the Code of Conduct for the BMA 2014 archaeological project in its entirety. I understand all of its contents and hereby agree to abide by the Code of Conduct for the duration of my participation in the BMA project. I understand and agree that my violation of the Code of Conduct is grounds for reprimand or even expulsion from the project depending on the severity of the offense and the judgment of the Senior Staff. I have already addressed my questions about the Code of Conduct to a member of the Senior Staff and/or the Volunteer Coordinator and fully understand the nature of my agreement.

________________________
Date

________________________
Print volunteer name

________________________
Volunteer signature