

Call for Papers:

Forgotten Voices from Mongol Eurasia

International Conference

June 25-26, 2024 in Seoul



EWHA WOMANS UNIVERSITY

Conveners: Michal Biran, Jong-kuk Nam, Dongkyung Shin

At its height the Mongol Empire (1206-1368) ruled over two-thirds of Eurasia. Connecting east, west, north, and south, the Mongols integrated most of the Old World. Mobilizing people, ideas and artifacts in an unprecedented scale, the Empire promoted cross-cultural contacts, triggered the reshuffle of religious, ethnic, and geopolitical identities, and opened a new chapter in world history.

While the study of the Mongol Empire has made tremendous strides in the last decades, enabling us to portray the contours of the Empire's political history and the Chinggisid exchange, there are still many voices that are yet to be heard. These are mainly the voices of the common people (nomads, farmers, sailors, slaves, women, artisans..), lesser elites, or people living at the empire's peripheries. New sources (e.g. inscriptions, manuscripts), innovative techniques (e.g. micro-archaeology, aDNA) as well as a fresh look on our sources or new combinations of them, can now allow us to broaden and deepen our understanding of the Mongols and the life under their rule.

Our conference aims to shed light on people, ideas and artifacts that have so far received less attention from historians or have been barely discovered, and yet can illuminate the economic and cultural exchange that took place under Mongol rule or the daily life of the Mongols and their various subjects. By "Voices" we mean not only people (including diasporas, border communities, commercial or intellectual networks of various scales), but also cultural commodities (texts, images, paintings), as well as specific artifacts or trade goods (including plants, animals, slaves). We hope that such heretofore forgotten voices will enable us to get a "thicker description" of life under Mongol rule.

We especially welcome papers dealing with (but not limited to):

Micro-history

Cultural biographies of objects or sites

Slaves and slave trade

Daily life in the Mongol Empire- archaeological, visual or literary perspectives

Migrant and border communities

We plan to publish a selected number of the papers in an edited volume.

Practical details:

The conference will be held on June 25-26, 2024 in the Department of History at Ewha Womans University, Seoul and hosted by the Ewha Frontier 10-10 Project “Research in Global History for Peaceful Coexistence.” The hosts will provide three-nights’ accommodation (June 24-26) near Ewha Womans University, one of the most beautiful campuses in South Korea located in central Seoul. We also hope to be able to offer partial or full refund of airfare travel (economy ticket) to some of the presenters. if you wish to be considered for funding, please state so when submitting the abstract.

We welcome proposals of panels and/or individual papers. Please send abstracts (up to 250 words) together with a short (maximum 1 page) CV for individual papers in one file. Panel proposals should also include an abstract of the panel’s theme (up to 250 words) as well as abstracts of each paper, and CVs of the organizer/s and each panelist, all in one file.

Abstracts and CVs should be sent to: ewhahistory1010@gmail.com by **December 10, 2023**.

For question please contact ewhahistory1010@gmail.com or Michal Biran at biranm@mail.huji.ac.il

Presenters will be notified of acceptance no later than February 1, 2024.