



your help will make a difference

With your help Mongolians can complete their quest to recover this significant aspect of their cultural heritage.

Help them to collect the stories of the old people

£110 (\$200) pays to collect and record the story of one Monastery

£220 (\$400) pays to collect and record the stories in one small district (soum)

[£4,200 (\$7,500) pays to collect and record the stories in one province (aimag)]

At the Arts Council, we have already collected the stories in one province and our capital, Ulaanbaatar. Now we need to collect the stories for the rest of the country — and plan to do this in the summer of 2007. We have raised over a quarter of the funds we need, in Mongolia.

Will you contribute? With your help we will be able to collect all the stories. Please give what you can.

Please fill in the enclosed form and return to: Sue Byrne, 111 Gloucester Avenue, London NW1 8LB, UK

To know more about the project go to: www.mongoliantemples.net which lists the full proposal and the budget (currently standing at £75,000/ \$130,000) or email Sue Byrne at sbyrne@easynet.co.uk

[The Arts Council of Mongolia has authorized Sue Byrne to fundraise for this project.]



The Arts Council of Mongolia has contracted INMongolia, an international network of consultants founded in 2005, to design and manage the project following their successful completion of the pilot work.

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I was born around here and visited the monastery every day. They chanted every morning. When I was 17 some soldiers came to the monastery and forced me to point out the monks on their list. They took them away and killed them. I went to the army and when I came back there was nothing left. The books were burnt or thrown in the river though some were hidden. For me, destroying the monastery meant stopping the beating heart and mind of this whole area. After democracy came, I put up a monument to remember the people who were killed in 1937/8. It was shown on national TV. By this time, the district governor had declared their innocence and restored their reputation. Every year, I take my family to the ruins to make offerings and to remember the tragic events that took place in this peaceful area.

—Bazarsad, born 1920, telling his story
about Tenuunii Khuree in Toev Province”

WE CAN TELL HIS STORY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Help Us Preserve Mongolia's Unique Cultural Heritage

time is running out, we need your help now

. . . capturing the stories of the elderly holds the key to rediscovering Mongolia's unique cultural heritage. . .

In the late 1930's Mongolian's cultural heritage was torn away. In two short years the Soviet-style Communist authorities devastated the country's sacred landscapes by ordering the destruction of the monasteries and banning religious practice.

Mongolians now feel a vital need to retrieve their past – they want to make contact with their historic cultural identity and to show the world what irreplaceable riches they once had.

The Arts Council of Mongolia, as part of its mandate for Cultural Restoration, wants to capture the memories of the old people in a major project to help Mongolians restore their national heritage



the clock is ticking . . .

The old people, who knew the monasteries before the terrible purges, are now in their 80s. They hold the key to the past in their memories. We need to capture their stories now. Only they know where the monasteries were and what life was like at that time.



there is a window of opportunity to rediscover Mongolia's rich cultural heritage . . .

The Arts Council of Mongolia is sending survey teams to all provinces and districts in the country to search out the old people and get them to tell their stories.

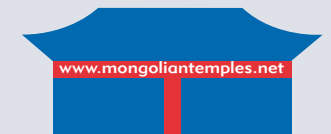
The old people, many of them men who were young monks at the time of the destruction, will lead the Arts Council survey teams to the sites of the monasteries. Here they will tell their story: about their daily life in the monastery; the composition of the settlement and number of monks. GPS readings and photographs will be taken to preserve the old people's identification of the sites of the monasteries. (Most were destroyed so very little physical evidence remains of their existence.)



The project has a global significance involving the protection, preservation and future restoration of invaluable world monuments. It will also contribute to understanding the roots of Inner Asian history by documenting the breadth and importance of religious and cultural settlements in Mongolian history.

help us capture the memories . . .

All the stories will be captured, along with other historical information, on our website. If you want to see more about what we are doing, take a look. You can see all the details of the project along with a full budget.



For more information visit www.MongolianTemples.net