



MONGOLIAN BLACK FISH



INTRODUCING
KHUVSGUL PROVINCE
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THE REGION OF MONGOLIA KHUVSGUL PROVINCE

- **TERRITORY - 38, 842 SQ. MILES (100,600 SQ. KM)**
- **CENTER - MURUN TOWN, LOCATED 430 MILES (692 KM) FROM ULAANBAATAR.**
- **POPULATION : 124,500**
- **POPULATION DENSITY : 1,24 P/SQ. KM**
- **ELEVATION OF CAPITAL CITY : 1283M**
- **LIVESTOCK & CROPS : SHEEP, GOAT, CATTLE, HORSE/ HAY**
- **ETHNIC GROUPS : KHALKH, BURYAT, TSAATAN, URIANKHAI, DARKHAD**
- **AVERAGE TEMPERATURES : JULY + 16,9°C JANUARY - 23,8°C**
- **NUMBER OF SOMONS - 23**
- **KHUVSGUL PROVINCE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1931.**

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

THE PROVINCE IS LARGELY MOUNTAINOUS. THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST ARE DOMINATED BY THE ROUND-TOPPED TARVAGATAI, BULNAIN AND ERCHIM SUB-RANGES OF THE KHANGAI MASSIF. THE AREAS WEST AND NORTH OF LAKE KHUVSGUL ARE FORMED BY THE ALPINE KHORIDOL SARIDAG, ULAAN TAIGA, AND MUNKH SARIDAG MOUNTAINS. THE CENTER AND EAST SIDE OF PROVINCE IS LESS MOUNTAINOUS, BUT STILL HILLY.

WITHIN MONGOLIA, THE REGION IS WELL KNOWN FOR ITS NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, AND LAKE KHUVSGUL IS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MAJOR TOURIST ATTRACTIONS. THE LARGEST FOREST AREAS OF MONGOLIA ARE LOCATED AROUND AND TO THE NORTH OF THE LAKE, EXTENDING THE SOUTH-SIBERIAN TAIGA.

KHATGAL WAS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER UNTIL 1933, SINCE THEN IT HAS BEEN MURUN.

POPULATION

THE REGION IS HOME OF MANY ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS: DARKHAD, KHOTGOID, URIANKHAI, BURIAD, AND TSAATAN. BOTH DARKHAD AND TSAATAN ARE FAMOUS FOR THEIR PRACTICE OF SHAMANISM.

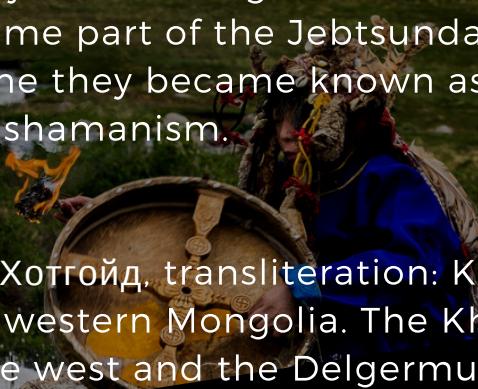


Population

DARKHAD PEOPLE

The Darkhad (Mongol: Дархад, lit. "untouchables or "protected by the church" or "handicraftsmen" for Darkhan) is a subgroup of Mongol people living mainly in northern Mongolia, in the Bayanzürkh, Ulaan-Uul, Renchinlkhümbe, and Tsagaannuur sums of Khuvsgul Province. The Darkhad valley is named after them. The regional variant of Mongol language is the Darkhad dialect. In the 2000 census, 16,268 people identified themselves as Darkhad.

The Darkhad were originally part of the Oirat or Khotgoid tribes. Between 1549 and 1686, they were subjects of Zasagt Khan aimag and the Khotgoid Altan Khan. In 1786 they became part of the Jebtsundamba Khutuktu's shabi otog. At roughly the same time they became known as Black Darkhad. Many Darkhad practise shamanism.



KHOTOGOID PEOPLE

Khotogoid (Mongolian: Хотгойд, transliteration: Khotgoid) is a subgroup of Mongol people in northwestern Mongolia. The Khotogoid people live roughly between Uvs Lake to the west and the Delgermurun river to the east. The Khotogoids belong to north western Khalkha and were one of the major groups that make up Khalkha.

The best known ruler of Khotogoids probably was Ubashi Huang Taizi, also known as Altan Khan of the Khotogoid (not to be confused with Altan Khan of Tumed) who was successful in subjecting Yenisei Kirghiz and pushing Oirats out of their domains in western Mongolia. The northern border of the Khotgoid Khanate reached modern Russian Krasnoyarsk city and the southern border reached the eastern Altay Mountains of Mongolia in the 17th century. The Khotogoid Khanate was not an independent state and its ruler was subject to Zasagt khan aimag of Khalkha.

In mid 17th century, because of the conflicts with neighboring Zasagtu Khan, the Khotogoids disintegrated and ceased to exist as a separate political unit. As a result, Khotogoids were frequently invaded by both other Khalkhas and Oirats.

The Khotogoids moved into the area in the 16th century. In 1694, they were organized into the Zasagtu Khan aimag's Erdeni Degüregchi Wang khoshuu. After Chingünjav's rebellion in 1756-57, this khoshuu was split up into five smaller entities: Erdeni Degüregchi Wang khoshuu, Akhai Beise khoshuu, Mergen Gong khoshuu, Dalai Gong khoshuu, and Tsogtoo Wang khoshuu. Chingunjav (mentioned above) is probably another well known Khotogoid besides Ubashi Huang Taizi.

Population

DUKHA PEOPLE

The Dukha, Dukhans or Duhalar (Mongolian: Цаатан, Tsaatan) are a small Tuvan (Tozhu Tuvans) Turkic community of reindeer herders living in northern Khuvsugul Aimag of Mongolia.

The name Tsaatan, which means "those who have reindeer" in the Mongolian language, were originally Tuvian reindeer herders.

Transportation

The Murun Airport (ZMMN/MXV) has one paved runway. It offers regular flights from and to Ulaanbaatar, and also serves as intermediate stop into the western Aimags.

The Khatgal Airport (HTM) only runs scheduled flights from and to Ulaanbaatar in summer, offering a more direct approach to Lake Khuvsugul for the tourists.

The road distance from Murun to Ulaanbaatar is 690 km. A new paved road finished in fall 2012 now connects Mörön to Khatgal on Lake Khuvsugul.

Livestock

In 2007, the aimag was home approx. 3.43 million heads of livestock, including 1,510,000 goats, 1,442,000 sheep, 322,000 cattle and yaks, 150,000 horses, 2,350 camels, and 652 reindeer.



VISIT US AT

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