

BASICS OF MONGOLIAN LANGUAGE
МОНГОЛ ХЭЛНИЙ СУУРЬ ДҮРЭМ

v. 1.00

1. INTRODUCTION

Mongolian language (монгол хэл) is an Altaic language, distantly related to Turkish as well as Turkic languages of Central Asia like Kazakh and Tuvan, and displays their typical features of agglutination and vowel harmony. Agglutination means that word stems are invariable and inflection (tense, case, etc) is achieved by the addition to the word stems of single or multiple suffixes. (for example: хий - do, make, хийх - to do, to make, хийсэн - did, made, хийдэг - is doing, is making, хийгээд - do it and then, etc)

Vowel harmony means that all the vowels in a word stem, and any suffixes attached to it, belong to one class of either "back - masculine - strong" or "front - feminine - weak" vowels, which are not mixed. Masculine vowels (эрэгшиг in Mongolian) are а, о, у (for example гудамж - street, гудамжаас - from street) and feminine (эмэгшиг in Mongolian) are э, ө, ү (for example хөвсгөл - lake Hövsgöl, хөвсгөлөөс - from Hövsgöl).

There are about seven million Mongol speakers in the world, including two million in Mongolia, more than twice that number in Inner Mongolia and other parts of China, and another half million or so in the Buryat and Kalmyk Republic in and elsewhere in Russia.

The Mongols have written their language in several different scripts, the oldest and most durable of which, called the classical Mongol script, was introduced almost 800 years ago under Genghis Khan. Derived from Uighur writing, it has 24 letters written vertically in initial, medial and final variants. The language of the classical Mongol script is now archaic in Mongolia but it is still used in Inner Mongolia in China.

MONGOLIAN ALPHABET - ЦАГААН ТОЛГОЙ

А а - <i>a</i>	Б б - <i>b</i>	В в - <i>v</i>	Г г - <i>g</i>
Д д - <i>d</i>	Е е - <i>ye</i>	Ё ё - <i>yo</i>	Ж ж - <i>j</i>
З з - <i>z</i>	И и - <i>i</i>	Й й - <i>i</i>	К к - <i>k</i>
Л л - <i>l</i>	М м - <i>m</i>	Н н - <i>n</i>	О о - <i>o</i>
Ө ө - <i>ö</i>	П п - <i>p</i>	Р р - <i>r</i>	С с - <i>s</i>
Т т - <i>t</i>	У у - <i>u</i>	Ү ү - <i>ü</i>	Ф ф - <i>f</i>
Х х - <i>kh</i>	Ц ц - <i>ts</i>	Ч ч - <i>ch</i>	Ш ш - <i>sh</i>
Щ щ - <i>shch</i>	Ъ ъ - <i>hard sign</i>	Ы ы - <i>y</i>	Ь ь - <i>soft sign</i>
Э э - <i>e</i>	Ю ю - <i>yu</i>	Я я - <i>ya</i>	

MONGOLIAN SENTENCE EXAMPLES

Сайн байна уу?	Sain bainuu?	Hallo.
Сонин сайхан юу байна?	Sonin saihan yu bain?	How are you? (what is new?)
Баяртай	Bayartai.	Goodbye.
Таны нэрийг хэн гэдэг вэ?	Tany neriig hen gedeg ve?	What is your name?
Намайг Martin гэдэг.	Namaig martin gedeg.	My name is Martin.
Та аль улсаас ирсэн вэ?	Ta ali ulsaas irsen be?	Where are you from? (From which country did you came?)
Би Чэх улсаас ирсэн.	Bi cheh ulsaas irsen.	I am from Czech. (I came from Czech.)
Та хэдэн настай вэ?	Ta hedn nastei ve?	How old are you?
Би хорин таван настай.	Bi horin tavan nastei.	I am 25 years old.
Энэ юу вэ?	En yu ve?	What is it?
Энэ аппарат байна.	En aparat bain.	This is camera.
Энэ яамар үнэтэй вэ?	En yamar untei ve?	How much is it?
Энд зураг авч болох уу?	End zurag avj bolhu?	Can I take a photo here?
Би таны зургийг авч болох уу?	Bi tany zurgiig avj bolhu?	Can I take a photo of you?
Болно. - Болохгүй.	Boln. - Bolohgui.	You can. - You can not.
Та завтай юу?	Ta zavtei yu?	Do you have free time?
Хөвсгөл руу яаж очих вэ?	Hövsgöl ruu yaaj ochih ve?	How can I reach Hövsgöl?
Бид явган явж болох уу?	Bid yavgan yavj bolhu?	Can we go on foot?
Тэнд хүрэхэд хир удах вэ?	Tend hurhed hir udah ve?	How long we need to go there?
Миний бие өвдөж байна.	Minii bii övdöj bain.	I am ill.
Та надад туслах уу?	Ta nadad tuslahuu?	Help me please?
Би төөрчихлөө.	Bi töörchihlöö.	I got lost.
Бие засах газар хаана байдаг вэ?	Bii zasah gadzar haan baidag ve?	Where is toilet/bathroom?
Би ойлгохгүй байна.	Bi oilgohgui bain.	I don't understand.
Та англиар ярьдаг уу?	Ta angliar jardgu?	Do you speak English?
Хэзээ онгойх/хаах вэ?	Hezee ongoih/haah ve?	When you opens/closes?
Автобусны буудал хаана байдаг вэ?	Avtusny buudal haan baidag ve?	Where is the bus station?
Улаанбаатар хүрэхэд ямар үнэтэй вэ?	Ulaanbaatar hurhed, yamar untei ve?	How much is to go to UB?

CASES IN MONGOLIAN

Cases	Question	Suffixes
Nominative	who?	no suffix
Genitive	whose?	-ын, -ийн, -ы, -ий, -н
Dative-Locative	(to) whom?	-д, -т
Accusative	whom?	-ыг, -ийг, -г or without suffix
Ablative	from whom?	-аас ⁴
Instrumental	by whom?	-аар ⁴
Comitative	with whom?	-тай ³
Directive	towards whom?	-руу ² (-луу ²)

NOMINATIVE CASE

The nominative case has no suffix in Mongolian.

Who did it? - **Хэн** хийсэн бэ? **Dog** did it. - **Нохой** хийсэн.

What all is there? - Тэнд **юу юу** байна вэ? There are **meat, vegetable and eggs** there. - Тэнд **мах, нөгөө, өндөг** байна.

MONGOLIAN TEXT EXAMPLES

Sanskrit glossary from "The teaching of Buddha" - Bukkyo Dindo Kyokai - Japan:

ANATMAN (Egolessness)

This is one of the most fundamental points in Buddhism. According to Buddhism there is no eternal phenomena in this world that is why all things are without own essence.

АНАТМАН /"Би"¹ бээр² байхгүй³/

Энэ⁴ нь⁵ бурханы шашны⁶ хамгийн⁷ чухал⁸ ухагдахууны⁹ нэг¹⁰ юм¹¹. бурханы шашны дагуу¹² гэрэлт¹³ ертөнцөд¹⁴ мөнх¹⁵ орших¹⁶ юм байхгүй учир¹⁷ хорвоод¹⁸ аливаа¹⁹ юм өөрийн²⁰ мөн чанаргүй²¹ юм.

1 - I, 2 - subject indicator, 3 - not to be, 4 - this, 5 - stand for 3rd person, 6 - Buddhas religion = Buddhism, 7 - most, 8 - important, 9 - concept, idea, 10 - one, 11 - thing, 12 - along, by way of, according to, 13 - bright, 14 - world, universe, 15 - eternal, 16 - to be situated, to exist, 17 - fact, matter, because, 18 - world, 19 - all, everything, 20 - one's own, 21 - without nature, without essence

SOURCES:

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