Syllabus

FROM THE SILK ROUTE TO AFGHANISTAN: AN INTRODUCTION TO CENTRAL ASIA

Eden Naby (2-3537) room 1152 van hise
Department of South Asian Studies #910-265
Spring 1988 Mon.Wed.Fri. 12:05 Room 395 Van Hise

Sessions:
1. Geography as a determinant of CA politics and civilization (Slides)
2. Ethnographic distribution of people: effects on past and present (Slides)
3. Pastoral and oasis cultures
4. Patterns of trade: the silk route
5. Iranian tribal movements
6. Empires of the steppe: the early phase (slides)
7. Greco-Roman culture on the silk route
8. Archeology as a source for Central Asian history (slides)
9. Numismatics - the coin of history
10. The religions of Central Asia - Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism, Manichaeanism, Zoroastrianism
11. as above
12. The spread of Islam
13. as above
14. The Impact of Islam on Central Asian history
15. Review
16. *** MID-TERM ***
17. Religious Institutions
18. Mysticism in its religious and political context
19. The literary heritage
20. Islamic Art of Central Asia (Slides)
21. Languages of Central Asia
The movement of the Turkic people

The Turkic folklore of Central Asians (audial materials)

The conquerors and social change: Chinggiz Khan and Tamerlane

Central Asians in India: the origins of the Mogul empire

Prelude to conquest: Central Asia under indigenous rule

Expansion of the Tsarist Empire

Assertion of Chinese rule over Central Asians

Conflict on the "roof of the world" The Russians, Chinese and British

The "Great Game" and the creation of Afghanistan

Cultural and political revival in Turkestan

The Bolshevik Revolution

Resistance and reconquest

Leninist nationality policy: Ethnic strains

Union Republics: mechanisms of autonomy and integration

Islam in Soviet Central Asia

Central Asians between China and Russia

Chinese Turkestan in the aftermath of Beijing reforms

Afghanistan in the contemporary Central Asian context

The Afghan resistance and the future Central Asia

Requirements:
Map exercise (5%) due Feb 5 (in class)
Mid-term (25%) multiple choice & matching
Take-home final (35%) due on May 9 (9 am, 1242 van hise)
A book review (25%) based on a selection of novels, monographs and other materials due on April 22
Class participation and preparation (10%) based on lecture and discussion
Reading Requirements

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AN INTRODUCTION TO CENTRAL ASIA

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Eden Naby (Van Hise 1152) Spring, 1988

The following books should be purchased if possible. They are also on reserve.


3. Aichen Wu, TURKESTAN TUMULT (Hong Kong, Oxford University Press, 1984 paperback edition)


Materials on Reserve (in addition to above)


2. Owen Lattimore, PIVOT OF ASIA (Boston, Little, Brown and Co., 1950)

3. Richard N. Frye, A HISTORY OF ANCIENT PERSIA (Weisbaden, 1984) chapters 3, 4, 7, 9, 12