

# Our Penpal in Asia

## Blacks in Asia: Mongolia

### Hello, from Mongolia!

Hello, students from Chalmers School of Excellence! I was so happy to get your letters. I just came to Mongolia and it is a very beautiful country. There are a lot of mountains around our school. The city I live in is called Ulaanbaatar. Can you say it? I know it is very difficult to say the name of this city. It was difficult for me also when I first heard it.

Our city is also similar to Chicago. It gets really cold in the winter and very hot during the summer. We also have many of the foods you have in Chicago. Our city has Burger King, Pizza Hut, and KFC. The children at our school usually speak two languages. They can speak both English and Mongolian. They usually speak English to me when they are at school and speak Mongolian to their parents at home.

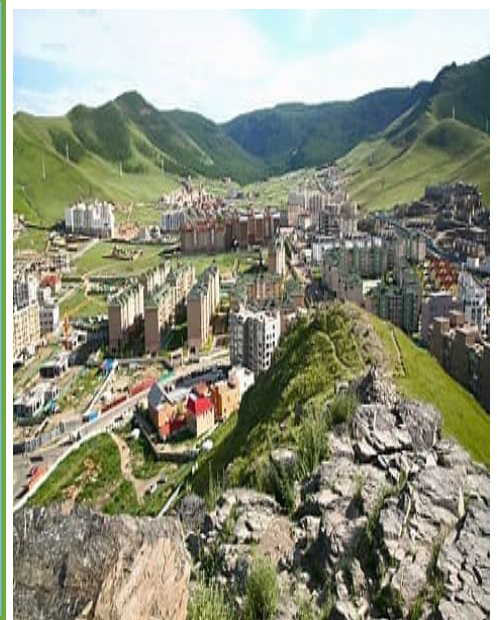


### Human Migrations Out of Africa

#### Out of Africa

Scientists have studied the early people who lived in Africa for many years. After much hard and difficult research they have learned black people were the first people to walk on planet earth. This means there was a time in earth's history when black people were the only people on the earth.

These early peoples in Africa later moved to other parts of the world. The map you see above shows the places these black peoples went after they journeyed out of Africa. Africans were the first people to live in China, India, Mongolia and many other areas in Asia.



**Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia**

### **Mongolia**

Mongolia is a country that lies between China and Russia. It is a country completely surrounded by land. The biggest city in Mongolia is Ulaanbaatar. This is the capital city. There are more than 300 lakes in Mongolia. The country also has frequent earthquakes.

The children here are similar to American kids. They like gym class and playing sports such as soccer and running. They eat ice cream and enjoy pizza. They also love Mongolian traditional

Mongolia has long cold winters and the summers are short and warm. There are also some wild animals living in the mountains. The Mountains of Mongolia have bears, deer, and leopards.

The people who live here are called "Mongols". Most Mongols here follow the religion called Buddhism.



**The flag of Mongolia**

foods. Due to covid-19, all the students at our school are required to wear masks. All the teachers have been vaccinated and we wash our hands at least 7 times per day. The students are also required to change their masks once a day.



**Children of Mongolia**



# Mongolian History

For thousands of years the people of Mongolia were **nomads**. "Nomads" are people who do not live in one place or location. Instead, they move constantly from one area to another. Nomads move around a lot because they need to find food and water for their livestock (animals they are raising). Due to their way of life, horses were very important to the nomads. Riding horses allowed them to move around quickly.

For many years the nomads of Mongolia were made up of different tribes which often fought each other. In the year 1206 AD a great man named Genghis Khan, united the different Mongolian tribes. With Genghis Khan as their ruler, the nomads formed themselves into the **Great Mongol Empire**. Genghis Khan was a great military leader. He declared war on many nations and led the Mongols Empire to victory against many countries. The nations they conquered became part of the Mongol Empire. Due to their many military victories, Genghis Khan and the Mongols created the largest empire that ever existed before them.



Genghis Khan, great leader of the Mongols.

Today, Genghis Khan is viewed as a great leader by the people of modern Mongolia. Many Mongolians today are proud of their heritage and history.



A Mongolian horseman.

# Black Mongols



Painting of yellow and black skinned Mongols. Produced by Japanese artist Kanagisawa Kien (1703–1758).

When we study the early history of human beings we find black people were the first people to occupy the planet earth. These early black peoples traveled around the world. They were the first people to live in Europe, India, China and many other areas. Research in many areas of science has shown this to be a true.

Blacks were also the first people to live in Mongolia. Mongolia has a Black history. When we study Mongolian history we learned many of the nomads that lived in and around Mongolia were black. For example, nomads such as the Sakas, Karaits, the Huns, and Yueh-Chih were black nomadic groups. The Black groups were known to be great warriors and many nations feared them. Stories about their great skills in battle can found in Chinese and Roman history.

We know there were Blacks in ancient Mongolia because Asian peoples painted pictures of them. They also wrote about them in their early books. They mentioned them in the early records which discussed the populations in their countries. They had special words for black people in Asia such as "li-man" and "Habashi". This is how we know they were talking about a black person.

Mongolian history is apart of Black history. It is fun to learn about our ancestors who once lived in Mongolia. We share the same history as modern Mongolian people so we should view each other as one single family. There is more that unites us then separate us.