Adeeb Khalid  
Emperors of the Steppe (History 265) 
Syllabus for the course offered in Spring 2002  
Carleton College  
History Department

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History 265
Empires of the Steppe
Spring 2002

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Leighton 205
Office hours: T 1-3, W 3:30-4:30, and by appointment. I may be contacted by telephone (x4214) or by e-mail at akhalid.

Texts:
The following are available for purchase at the Bookstore:
David Christian, *A History of Russia, Central Asia and Mongolia*
Richard Frye, *Bukhara: The Medieval Achievement*
J. J. Saunders, *The History of the Mongol Conquests*
Adeeb Khalid, *The Politics of Muslim Cultural Reform*
Theodore Levin, *The Hundred Thousand Fools of God*
In addition, a packet of readings has been placed on closed reserved at the Library. Readings included in it are marked by * below.

Evaluation:
The final grade will be calculated as follows:
Two papers, 30% each
Two quizzes, 15% each
Participation, 10%

The participation grade will be based on both attendance and active participation in discussion. Primary sources included in the readings are particular important for discussion. These are marked by † below.

Schedule of Classes:
April 1: Introduction; Ecology

*The Steppe and its People*
April 3: Nomadism
Christian, 3-20
*Barfield, *The Nomadic Alternative*, 1-18, 131-179
April 5: Tribes
Christian, 123-157
*Lindner, “What was a Nomadic Tribe?”*
April 8: The Earliest Nomadic empires
Christian, 183-243
April 10: Europe and the Steppe
Christian, 247-303
April 12: The Crossroads of Religions
*DeWeese, *Islamization and Native Religion*, 27-50
April 15: Film: *The Silk Road*

*The Rise of Islam*
April 17-19 The Rise of Islam and the First Muslim Dynasties
Frye, entire
April 22: Islamization: Complexities of Conversion
   *DeWeese, 51-66, †541-543
   †*The Wisdom of Royal Glory, 103-111

The Mongols
April 24-29: The Mongols
   Saunders, entire
   †*Secret History of the Mongols, 1-18, 183-204

The Revenge of the Periphery
May 1: The Aftermath of the Mongol Empire
   *Soucek, History of Inner Asia, 117-161, 167-175
May 3: Chinese Expansion into Inner Asia
   *Rossabi, China and Inner Asia, 84-105, 166-217
May 6: MIDTERM BREAK
May 8: MIDTERM QUIZ
May 10: Russian Expansion into Central Asia
   *Soucek, 177-193
   *Donnelly and MacKenzie in Rywkin, ed., Russian Colonial Expansion, 189-234
   Khalid, chap. 1

The Modern Age
May 13: Central Asia under Russian rule
   Khalid, chaps. 2-3
May 15-17: The Encounter with Modernity
   Khalid, chs. 4-6
   †*Cho’lpon, “Dr Muhammad-Yar”
May 20: Central Asia in the Age of Revolutions
   Khalid, ch. 8, epilogue
May 22: The Transformations of the Soviet Era
   *Edgar, “Genealogy, Class, and ‘Tribal Policy’.”
   Begin reading Levin
May 24: The Transformations of the Soviet Era
   *Kamp, “The Three Lives of Saodat.”
May 27: Culture and Identity in the Soviet Period
   DISCUSSION: Levin
May 29: Film: Revolt of the Daughters-in-Law
May 31: Chinese Inner Asia in the 20th Century
   Rudelson, Oasis Identities
June 3: After the Soviets
   Bissell, “Eternal Winter”
June 5: FINAL QUIZ