

THE MONGOLIA SOCIETY

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MONGOLISTS DIRECTORY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. (a) Surname: **VOVIN**

(b) Given names: **Alexander**

(c) If Mongolian please identify
Etsgiin ner (or Parent's name, otchestvo)
Ner (Personal name)
Ovog (Clan name)
2. (a) Date of birth [day/month/year]: **January 27, 1961**

(b) Place of birth: **St. Petersburg, RUSSIA**
3. Female Male
4. Highest academic degree/title: **PhD**
5. Place of work [institution, department]:
Title or Position
Directeur d'études, linguistique historique du Japon et de l'Asie du Nord-Est
Centre de recherches linguistiques sur l'Asie orientale
École des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris, FRANCE)
6. Addresses:
 - (a) Work address [street, postal code, country]
105 Bd. Raspail, 75006 Paris, FRANCE
 - (b) Office telephone [include city/area code]
same as my home phone: I mostly work at home
 - (c) Home address:
20 Impasse de la Garenne, 77167 Poligny, FRANCE
 - (d) Home telephone:
+33 7 85 36 56 01
 - (e) E-mail address:
sashavovin@gmail.com
 - (f) Fax
7. Education [degree, concentration/major (all degrees list in reverse order)]
MA, Japanese historical linguistics, 1983
PhD, Japanese historical linguistics, 1987
8. Areas of interest
 - Religion
 - Archeology
 - History

- Geography
- Folklore and Anthropology
- Anthropology
- Environmental Studies
- Demography and/or Sociology
- Economics
- Political science and international relations
- Art and Music

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- Linguistics and Philology

- Philology

- Literature

- Science and medicine (traditional and/or modern)
- Other (Please specify)

b) Time Period

- 1) Pre-history to pre-Chinggid
- 2) World Empire, Yuan period
- 3) 1368 to 1900
- 4) 1900 to present

c) Region

- Mongolia proper (Khalkha, MPR, Outer Mongolia, etc.)
- Inner Mongolia, Daurs, other Mongolian peoples in China
- Buriats, Kalmyks, other Mongolian Peoples in Russia
- Mongolian Empire in Islamic Lands
- Mongolian Empire in China
- Mongols in Tibet
- Other (Please specify)

9. Research interests and projects

Ancient Mongolia inscriptions in Brāhmī, Khitan, Middle Mongolian, reconstruction of proto-Mongolian, Middle Mongolian philology, Old Japanese philology, early language contacts in the Central, East, and Northern Asia, ethnolinguistic history of the Central, East, and Northern Asia.

Publication of the decipherment of Hüis Tolgoi inscription (early 7th c.) and non-Sogdian Bugut inscription (late 6th c.), Khitan in Manchu, grammar of Jīn period Jurchen inscriptions, translation with commentary of the *Manju yargiyan kooli* (trilingual Manchu-Chinese-Mongolian text)

Translation with detailed commentaries into English of the earliest and the largest Japanese poetic anthology *Man'yōshū*

Etymological dictionary of the Japonic languages

10. Knowledge of language [e.g., “native: German, reading: Chinese, Russian]

native: Russian

near-native: English, Japanese

good: French, Korean, Mandarin Chinese

fair: Turkish, Khalkha, German, Ainu, Okinawan

elementary: Thai

reading: Middle Mongolian, Classical Mongolian, Manchu, Old Turkic (Runic), Old Japanese, Classical Japanese, Old Okinawan, Middle Korean, Classical Chinese, Cassical Tibetan, Italian, Spanish

11. Other information of general interest [biographical information, areas of desired collaboration with other scholars, etc.]

Citizen of the USA, married with two children

Member of *Academia Europaea*

Laureate of 2015 prize in Japanese humanities from the Japanese Institute of Humanities

NIHU. Commemorative lecture 「日本語の起源と消滅危機言語」 (*The Origins of the Japanese Language and Endangered Languages*) and award ceremony held on December 9, 2015 in the Japanese Academy.

12. Bibliography

MONOGRAPHS

FORTHCOMING

- 2018a *Man'yōshū*, Book 2, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Leiden: Brill. XVIII+384 pp.
- 2018b *Man'yōshū*, Book 19, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Leiden: Brill. XVIII+290 pp.
- 2018c *The Tungusic Languages* (co-edited with José Andres Alonso de la Fuente), Leiden: Brill.

ALREADY PUBLISHED

- 2018 *Studies in Japanese and Korean historical and theoretical linguistics and beyond. A Festschrift to honor Prof. John B. Whitman on the occasion of his 60th birthday* (co-edited with William McClure). Leiden: Brill. XXXII+198 pp.
- 2017 *Man'yōshū*, Book 1, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Leiden: Brill. XX+192 pp.
- 2016a *Man'yōshū*, Book 18, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Leiden: Brill. XVIII+168 pp.
- 2016b *Man'yōshū*, Book 17, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Leiden: Brill. XVII+217 pp.
- 2013 *Man'yōshū*, Book 20, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Folkestone & Leiden: Global Oriental/Brill. XVII+317 pp.
- 2012 *Man'yōshū*, Book 14, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Folkestone & Leiden: Global Oriental/Brill. XVIII+269 pp.
- 2011 *Man'yōshū*, Book 5, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration. romanization, glossing and commentary. Folkestone & Leiden: Global Oriental/Brill. XVI+179 pp.
- 2010 *Koreo-Japonica: A re-evaluation of a common genetic origin*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. XVI+278 pp.

- 2009a *Man'yōshū*, Book 15, a new English translation containing the original text, kana transliteration, romanization, glossing and commentary. Folkestone: Global Oriental, XVII+219 pp.
- 2009b *A Descriptive and Comparative Grammar of Western Old Japanese*. part 2: *Adjectives, Verbs, Adverbs, Conjunctions, Particles, Postpositions, and Indices*. XIX+988 pp., Folkestone: Global Oriental.
- 2005 *A Descriptive and Comparative Grammar of Western Old Japanese*. part 1: *Introduction, Writing System and Phonology, Lexicon, Nominals*. XIX+432 pp., Folkestone: Global Oriental.
- 2003a *A Reference Grammar of Classical Japanese Prose*. London: Routledge/Curzon Press, 2003, XIX+476 pp.
- 2003b 日本語系統論の現在/*Perspectives on the Origins of the Japanese language*. Co-edited with Osada Toshiki (長田俊樹). Kyoto: The International Research Center for the Japanese Studies, 572 pp.
- 1993 *A Reconstruction of Proto-Ainu*. Leiden: E. J. Brill Publishers, XIII+219 pp.

BOOKLETS

- 2009 『万葉集と風土記に見られる不思議な言葉と上代日本列島におけるアイヌ語の分布』。京都：国際日本文化研究センター。2009。 . Kyoto: The International Research Center for the Japanese Studies, 57 pp.

EDITED CLASSICAL REPRINTS WITH AN INTRODUCTION

- 2010 Zakharov, Ivan 1875. *Grammatika man'chzhurskogo iazyka*. St. Petersburg, reprinted by: Folkestone: Global Oriental.
- 2009 Schmidt, Jacob 1837. *Wörterbuch Mongolisch-Russisch-Deutsch*. St. Petersburg, reprinted by: Folkestone: Global Oriental.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

FORTHCOMING

- 2018a 'An Interpretation of the Hüis Tolgoi Inscription'. *Proceedings of the 60th PIAC*.
- 2018b 'Early linguistic traditions in Japan and Korea.' A chapter for a volume edited by Linda Waugh on early linguistic traditions for Oxford University Press.
- 2018c 'Reconstruction based on external sources'. A chapter for the *Handbook of Japanese historical linguistics* ed. By John Whitman, Bjarke Frellesvig, and Satoshi Kinsui at Mouton de Gruyter.
- 2018d 'Old Korean and Proto-Korean *r and *l Revisited'. Accepted in *Korean Linguistics*.
- 2018e 'Proto-K(r)adai 'Hand', 'Eye', and 'Bird' Revisited'. Accepted in *Cahiers Linguistiques de l'Asie Orientale*.
- 2018f 'Fabrication of Turkic böz 'fabric' in Japan and Korea'. To appear in *Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae*, vol. 71.2 (or 3), 20 pp.
- 2018g 'The Last Note on the Aramaic Word for 'Monastery' in East Asia and Similar Encounters of the Fourth Kind'. Response to Beckwith 2017. To appear in *Journal Asiatique* 306.

- 2017b 'Mongolian *quši* 'Siberian Cedar', Tungusic **xasikta* and Finnish *kuusi* 'Spruce' Revisited'. In: *Mongolic Languages and Written Culture of Mongolian Peoples*, ed. by Pavel Rykin. Elista: Kalmyck State University, 7 pp.
- 2017c 'Classical Manchu'. A chapter in *The Tungusic Languages* (ed. by Alexander Vovin and José Andrés Alonso de la Fuente), Leiden: Brill.
- 2017d 'Chinese, Japanese, and Korean sources on pre-20th c. Tungusic'. A chapter in *The Tungusic Languages* (ed. by Alexander Vovin and José Andrés Alonso de la Fuente), Leiden: Brill.

ALREADY PUBLISHED

- 2018a 'Four Tungusic Etymologies'. In: *Philology of the Grasslands: Festschrift for Gyorgy Kara* (ed. by Ákos Apatóczy, Christopher Atwood, and Bela Kempf). Brill: Leiden. pp. 366-368.
- 2018b 'On the etymology of the name of Mt. Fuji'. In: *Studies in Japanese and Korean historical and theoretical linguistics and beyond. A Festschrift to honor Prof. John B. Whitman on the occasion of his 60th birthday* (co-edited with William McClure). Leiden: Brill. pp. 80-89.
- 2017a 'Origins of the Japanese Language'. In: *Online Oxford Research Encyclopedia*, 34 pp. <http://linguistics.oxfordre.com/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199384655.001.0001/acrefore-9780199384655-e-277?rskey=RSBt53&result=17>
- 2017b 'Koreanic Loanwords in Khitan and Their Importance in the Decipherment of the Latter'. In: *Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungarica* 2017.2: 207-215 (Special issue on the Khitan Studies), ed. by István Vásáry.
- 2017c 'Some Tofalar Etymologies'. In: *Essays in the History of Languages and Linguistics, Dedicated to Marek Stachowski on the occasion of his 60th birthday*, ed. by Németh, Michał, Barbara Podolak, and Mateusz Urban. Kraków: Jagiellonian University, pp. 794-801.
- 2016a 'And so Flows History'. In: *Endangered Languages of the Caucasus and Beyond*. (Ramazan Korkmaz and Gürkan Doğan, eds.). Leiden: Brill, pp. 275-287.
- 2016b 'On the Linguistic Prehistory of Hokkaidō'. In: *Crosslinguistics and Linguistic Crossings in Northeast Asia*. Ed. by Gruzdeva, Ekaterina and Juha Janhunen. *Studia Orientalia* 117: 29-38. Helsinki: Finnish Oriental Society.
- 2016c 'No Aramaic Word for 'Monastery' in East Asia. Reflections on Christopher I. Beckwith's Recent Publication'. *Journal Asiatique* 304.1: 117-124. (Co-authored with Laurent SAGART).
- 2016d 'Who Were the *Kjet and What Language did they Speak?' *Journal Asiatique* 304.1: 125-144. (Co-authored with Edward VAJDA and Étienne DE LA VASSIÈRE)
- 2016e 'Old Turkic Kinship Terms in Early Middle Chinese'. (Co-authored with David McCraw). *Türk Dili Yilligi -- Belleten* 2011.1: 107-118.
- 2015a 'Some Notes on the Tuyuhun (吐谷渾) Language -- In the footsteps of Paul Pelliot--'. In: *Journal of Sino-Western Communications*, 7.2: 157-166.
- 2015b 'On the Etymology of Middle Korean *psar* 'rice''. In: *Türk Dilleri Araştırmaları*, 25.2: 229-238, special issue ed. by Mehmet Ölmez (*Festschrift for Uwe Bläsing*).
- 2015c 'Eskimo loanwords in Northern Tungusic'. In: Victoria Arakelova (ed.). *Festschrift for Uwe Bläsing* (special issue of *Iran and Caucasus* 19: 87-95).

- 2014a 'Borrowing of Verbal Roots across Language Families Boundaries in the 'Altaic' World'. *Althai Hakpo* 24: 151-161.
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- 2013b 'From Koguryō to T'amna: Slowly Riding South with the Speakers of Proto-Korean.' *Korean Linguistics*, 15.2: 222-40.
- 2013c 'Mongolian names for 'Korea' and 'Korean' and their significance for the Korean language history'. In: *Studies in Korean Linguistics and Language Pedagogy*. Festschrift for Ho-min Sohn, ed. by Sung-Ock Sohn, Sungdai Cho, & Sek-Hoon You, pp. 200-205.
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- 2013f 왜 한국계 언어와 통구스계 언어가 동일 기원이라는 것을 실증할 수 없는가? 알타이 속의 한국어, 한국어 속의 알타이어. 도수희(편). 서울: 열락, 149-170 페이지. (Korean version of 2014b).
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- 2011a 'On one more source of Old Japanese *i*?' *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 20: 219-228.
- 2011b 'A modest proposal on the decipherment of the Khitan-Chinese bilingual text of 1134 (the Langjun inscription)'. In: *Life and Afterlife & Apocalyptic Concepts in the Altaic World: Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference (PIAC)*, Château Pietersheim, Belgium, September, 3 – 8, 2000, *Tunguso-Sibirica*; 31, ed. by Michael Knüppel and Aloïs van Tongerloo. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, pp. 123-130.
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- 2009b 'Once again on the Tabyaç language.' *Mongolian Studies* XXIX: 191-206.
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- 2007c ‘Once again on doublets in Western Old Japanese,’ In: *Current Issues in the History and Structure of Japanese*. Ed. By Bjarke Frellesvig, Masayoshi Shibatani, and John Charles Smith. Tokyo: Kurosio Publishers 2007, pp. 351-74.
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- 2005a ‘Tungusic languages.’ An article for Elsevier Encyclopedia of Linguistics. 2,000 words.
- 2005b ‘Old Japanese.’ An article for Routledge Encyclopedia of Linguistics. 2,000 words.
- 2005c ‘Classical (Middle) Japanese.’ An article for Routledge Encyclopedia of Linguistics. 2,000 words.
- 2005d ‘Murayama Shichirō.’ An article for Elsevier Encyclopedia of Linguistics. 500 words.
- 2005e ‘Osada Natsuki.’ An article for Elsevier Encyclopedia of Linguistics. 500 words.
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- 2003a 「日本語系統論の現在：これからどこへ」。In: 日本語系統論の現在 / *Perspectives on the Origins of the Japanese language*. Edited by Osada Toshiki (長田俊樹) and Alexander Vovin. Kyoto: The International Research Center on the Japanese Studies, pp. 15-39.
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- 1998b 'On the Pseudo-Problem of the Altaic Body Part Terms' (co-authored with Alexis Manaster Ramer and Paul Sidwell). *Ural-Altische Jahrbuch*, Neue Folge, Band 15.116-138.
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13. Dissertation [title, university, date, dissertation director]

Iazyk iaponskoi prozy vtoroi poloviny XI veka. St. Petersburg State University, October 29, 1987. Academic advisor: Prof. Dr. Irina T. Zograf