

Eric Schluessel

Assistant Professor of Chinese History and Politics, University of Montana
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EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA, Ph.D., History and East Asian Languages, 2016

Indiana University – Bloomington, Bloomington, IN, USA, M.A., Central Eurasian Studies, 2007

School of Oriental and African Studies, London, UK, M.A., Linguistics, 2005

Connecticut College, New London, CT, USA, B.A., *summa cum laude*, Chinese Language and Literature, Linguistics, Phi Beta Kappa, 2004

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Chinese History and Politics, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, USA, 2016–present

Director, Program in East Asian Studies, University of Montana, 2016–2018

Adjunct Professor of Chinese History, Connecticut College, New London, CT, 2014

Adjunct Professor of Chinese History, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA, 2014

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Land of Strangers: The Civilizing Project in Qing Central Asia. (Under review.)

An Introduction to Chaghatay: A Graded Textbook for Reading Central Asian Sources. Ann Arbor: Maize Books, 2018.

The World as Seen from Yarkand: Ghulām Muḥammad Khān’s 1920s Chronicle Mā Tīṭayniḡ wāqi’ asi. Tokyo: NIHU Program Islamic Area Studies, 2014.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

“Water Management and Local Politics in Turn-of-the-Century Xinjiang,” *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 62, no. 4 (December 2019), 595–621.

“Hiding and Revealing Pious Endowments in Late-Qing Xinjiang,” *The Muslim World* 108, no. 4 (December 2018): 613–629.

(as 許臨君) “从城隍到戍卒：定湘王在新疆 [From God-of-the-Wall to Garrison Soldier: The Dingxiang Wang Cult in Xinjiang],” *历史人类学学刊 Journal of History and Anthropology*, special issue 重探「帝国」与「地方社会」：华南研究与新清史的对话 [Reexamining “Empire” and “Local Society”: A Dialogue Between Historical Anthropology and the New Qing History] (October 2017), 169–186. (In Chinese, not translated.)

“Muslims at the *Yamen* Gate: Translating Justice in Late-Qing Xinjiang” in *Kashgar Revisited: Uyghur Studies in Memory of Gunnar Jarring*, edited by Ildikó Bellér-Hann, Birgit Schlyter, and Jun Sugawara, 116–138. Leiden: Brill, 2016.

“The Law and the ‘Law’: Two Kinds of Legal Space in Late-Qing China,” *Extrême-Orient Extrême-Occident* 40 (November 2016): 39–58.

“History, Identity, and Mother-Tongue Education in Xinjiang,” *Central Asian Survey* 28, no. 4 (2009): 383–402.

“‘Bilingual’ Education and Discontent in Xinjiang,” *Central Asian Survey* 26, no. 2 (2007): 1–27.

Other Scholarly Publications

In preparation. “Khotan iii. History in the Islamic Period” in *Encyclopædia Iranica*.

“A Key to the Pious Economy of Turn-of-the-Century Kashgaria” in Wiebke Beyer and Zhenzhen Lu, eds., *Manuscript of the Month* 2017.05, online at https://www.manuscript-cultures.uni-hamburg.de/mom/2017_05_mom_e.html. Note: This piece will be published in hard copy in 2019, along with its German translation.

With William Alford. “Legal History” in *A Companion to Chinese History* [Blackwell Companions to World History], edited by Michael Szonyi, 277–289. Malden: Blackwell, 2017.

“Families Divided and United in Late-Qing Xinjiang,” Chinese Legal Documents Series (International Society for Chinese Law and History) 3, No. 2 (June 2016), online at <http://chineselawandhistory.com/blog/2016/06/07/chinese-legal-documents-series-007/>.

“Language and the State in Late-Qing Xinjiang” in *Historiography and Nation-Building Among Turkic Populations*, edited by Birgit Schlyter and Mirja Juntunen, Istanbul: Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul, 2014.

“Thinking Beyond Harmony: the ‘Nation’ and Language in Uyghur Social Thought” in *On the Fringes of the Harmonious Society: Tibetans and Uyghurs in Socialist China*, edited by Ildikó Bellér-Hann and Trine Brox, 318–346. Copenhagen: Nordic Institute of Asian Studies Press, 2013.

(as Erik Shliussel’) “An East Turkestan Manual of the Cobblers (Vostochnoturkestanskoe ‘rukovostvo dlia sapozhnikov’),” *Gumanitarye issledovaniia Vnutrenney Azii* 1 (2012): 187–201.

Book Reviews

Review of Judd Kinzley, *Natural Resources and the New Frontier: Constructing Modern China’s Borderlands* in *The Journal of Asian Studies*, forthcoming.

Review of Jianglin Li, *Tibet in Agony: Lhasa 1959* in *Twentieth Century China* 43:3 (October 2018).

Review of Kwangmin Kim, *Borderland Capitalism: Turkestan Produce, Qing Silver, and the Birth of an Eastern Market* in *Agricultural History* 92:1 (Winter 2018), 137–139.

Review of David Lee, *Contextualization of Sufi Spirituality in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century China: The Role of Liu Zhi (c.1662–c.1730)* in *Journal of Chinese Religions* 46:1 (Winter 2018), 84–86.

Review of Ben Hillman and Gray Tuttle, eds., *Ethnic Conflict & Protest in Tibet & Xinjiang*, *Pacific Affairs* 90:3 (September 2017), 575–577.

Review of Tom Cliff, *Oil and Water: Being Han in Xinjiang*, *The China Journal* 78 (2017), 209–211.

Review of Justin Jacobs, *Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State*, *The China Quarterly* 228 (December 2016), 1122–1123.

Review of Rian Thum, *The Sacred Routes of Uyghur History*, *SCTIW Review*, April 14, 2015. Online at <http://sctiw.org/sctiwreviewarchives/archives/528>.

Review of Ondřej Klimeš, *Struggle By the Pen: the Uyghur Discourse of Nation and National Interest, c. 1900–1949*, *The China Journal* 75, 230–232.

Blogs and Writing for the General Public

“China’s Crackdown on Muslims,” Yale Global, 18 September 2018, online at <https://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/chinas-crackdown-muslims>.

“From Harvard Ph.D. to Montana Professor: Building Chinese Studies Under the Big Sky,” Fairbank Center Blog, 8 February 2017, online at <https://medium.com/fairbank-center/from-harvard-ph-d-to-montana-professor-building-chinese-studies-under-the-big-sky-2a4ef5e5447b>.

“Two Encounters On the Riverbank,” Manchu Studies Group, 23 April 2014, online at <http://www.manchustudiesgroup.org/2014/04/23/two-encounters-on-the-riverbank/>.

“Turco-Manjurica: The Turki Translation of Shunzhi’s Moral Exhortations to the People,” Manchu Studies Group, 30 September 2013, online at <http://www.manchustudiesgroup.org/2013/09/30/turco-manjurica-the-turki-translation-of-shunzhis-moral-exhortations-to-the-people/>.

“Turco-Manjurica Revisited: A Closer Look at Haenisch 1951,” Manchu Studies Group, 19 February 2013, online at <http://www.manchustudiesgroup.org/2013/02/19/turco-manjurica-revisited-a-closer-look-at-haenisch-1951/>.

RECENT GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, and VISITING POSITIONS

National Endowments for the Humanities (NEH), Fellowship, 2019–2020, for a scholarly edition and translation of the *Tārīkh-i Hamīdī*.

Mellon Fellowship for Assistant Professors, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, 2018–2019.

Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan, grant to fund the publication of *An Introduction to Chaghatay*, 2018.

Visiting Scholar, Yuelu Academy, Hunan University, Changsha, China, summer 2018.

Association for Asian Studies China and Inner Asia Council Small Grant for the Montana East Asia Workshop and China Lecture.

University of Montana Humanities Institute Grant for the Montana Sinophone Literature Workshop, 2017–2018.

Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies Collaborative Reading-Workshop Grant, “Towards a Scholarly Edition of the *Tārīkh-i Ḥamīdī*, a Chaghatay Chronicle of Modern Xinjiang,” 2016–2017.

Social Science Research Council, International Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2014–2015.

RESEARCH

Current Research Projects

Law Without Law, Empire Within Empire. Uses geospatial methods to track the history of a zone of legal exception in 19th-century China, its implications for notions of sovereignty and statehood, and its long-term social effects. Proposes that Confucian activists from Hunan carved out a Chinese “empire of morality” within the Manchu Qing “empire of law” by imposing their own regime of traditionalist moralism and capital punishment. (The article “Law Without Law” is a product of this project.)

Exiled Gods. Studies the history of the Hunanese diaspora in modern China, from Xinjiang to Shanghai and beyond. Demobilized Hunanese soldiers settled across Qing space and maintained a common identity through a network of temples. Yet even as they worshipped their common hometown god Dingxiang Wang, that deity became localized in ways that reflected soldiers’ own experiences and those of their descendants. (The Chinese-language article listed above and the submitted article “Exiled Gods” are both products of this project, research for which was supported by a faculty development grant in the summer of 2017.)

A Uyghur History of Xinjiang and the World. Mullah Musa Sayrami’s history of Xinjiang, the *Tarikh-i Hamidi* (written 1901–1908), is the preeminent Muslim source for the history of Chinese Central Asia in the 19th century, and yet it remains poorly understood. This project will prepare a full translation and scholarly edition for research and classroom use. (A fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities will allow me to complete the work in 2019–2020. Previously funded by a Luce/ACLS China Studies grant. *An Introduction to Chaghatay* and the glossary listed below are products of this project.)

Participation in Research Projects

Researcher, *ROADWORK: An Anthropology of Infrastructure at China’s Inner Asian Borders*. Principal Investigator: Prof. Agnieszka Joniak-Lüthi, University of Zurich. Funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, online at <https://roadworkasia.com/>.

External Partner, *Between Homogenization and Fragmentation: Textual Practices as Strategies of Integration and Identity Maintenance among the Uyghurs of Xinjiang, China (20th–21st centuries)*. Principal Investigator: Prof. Ildikó Bellér-Hann, University of Copenhagen, funded by the Velux Foundation, online at <https://ccrs.ku.dk/research/centres-and-projects/between-homogenization-and-fragmentation/>.

Participant, *Legalizing Space in China, 2014–2015*. Principal Investigator: Prof. Jérôme Bourgon, Centre national de la recherche scientifique. Online at <http://lsc.chineselegalculture.org/>.

Digital Humanities

With Nicholas Kontovas, I produced the world’s first digital dictionary for Chaghatay, “Eastern Turki Glossary,” online at http://niko.qalaymigan.com/eastern_turki_glossary/.

Workshops and Conferences Organized

Montana Sinophone Literature Workshop, 2017–2018. Fortnightly readings of texts in support of current research.

Mansfield East Asia Lecture Series, 2017–2018. Student-oriented presentations of research and small-group workshops led by invited scholars.

Montana East Asia Workshop, 2016–2018. Research and writing workshop for all Montana East Asianists. Aided the production of two books and four articles.

Towards a Scholarly Edition of the *Tārīkh-i Ḥamīdī*, a Chaghatay Chronicle of Modern Xinjiang, Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies Collaborative Reading Workshop, Missoula, MT, 25–27 May 2017. Close reading with a group of international experts.

Tārīkh-i Ḥamīdī Editing Group, Asia Center and Fairbank Center, Harvard University, 2015–2016. The beginning of an international collaboration with Japanese and European scholars to produce a translation and edition of this important text.

New Directions in Central and Inner Asian History, Mahindra Humanities Institute, Harvard University, 2013–present. Founder and coordinator, 2013–2014. Interregional history workshop brings Ottomanists, Manjurists, Russianists, and others together to critique and support theoretically-engaged historical research.

Recent and Forthcoming Invited Talks

“The Uyghurs of Xinjiang: Perfecting the Surveillance State in China’s Muslim Borderland,” Windham World Affairs Council, Brattleboro, Vermont, 10 May 2019.

“A Colonial Muslim History of Qing Central Asia: Sayrāmī’s *Tārīkh-i Ḥamīdī*,” University of Pennsylvania, East Asian Humanities Colloquium, 29 April 2019.

“The Emperor’s Secrets: How Muslims Interpreted Chinese Rule in Qing Xinjiang,” George Mason University, Islam in China: New Studies and Perspectives, 4 April 2019.

“A Colonial Muslim History of Qing Central Asia: Revisiting Sayrāmī’s *Tārīkh-i Ḥamīdī*,” Harvard University, IAAS Lecture Series, 3 April 2019.

“The Imperial Uncanny: Translation and Mediation in Turn-of-the-Century Xinjiang,” University of Copenhagen, 29 March 2019.

“Translation as Mediation: The Qing Politico-Juridical System as Seen from Xinjiang,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, 29 January 2019.

“A Colonial Muslim History of Qing Central Asia: Revisiting Sayrāmī’s *Tārīkh-i Ḥamīdī*,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, 29 January 2019.

“A Spatial Approach to Land Documents in Turn-of-the-Century Xinjiang (East Turkestan),” University of Copenhagen, 18 June 2018.

“Power and Language: Turkic-Chinese Translation and Interpreting in Turn-of-the-Century Xinjiang,” Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden, 22 November 2017.

“Three Sources for the Legal History of Turpan in the Late Qing,” 2nd Xinjiang Old Documents Seminar, Lanzhou University, 7–9 July 2017.

“湘军集团在新疆刍议：追寻跨地域社会史 [On the Xiang Army Community in Xinjiang: Towards a Translocal Social History],” Yuelu Academy, Hunan University, 19 June 2017. (In Chinese.)

“Frontier Confucianism: the Chinese Civilizing Project in Turn-of-the-Century Xinjiang,” Montana State University, Bozeman, MT, 28 April 2017.

“Translating Trauma in the Turn-of-the-Century Chinese Central Asia,” Inaugural Lecture, Humanities Institute, University of Montana, 15 February 2017.

“Confucian Civilization and Its Discontents: Chinese Colonialism in Central Asia,” Central Eurasia Working Group, University of Washington, 23 March 2016.

“Confucian Schools and the Interpreter Class in Late-Qing Xinjiang,” Xinjiang in the Context of Central Eurasian Transformations, Tokyo, Japan, 18 December 2015.

“从抄本挖掘新疆地方文化史 [Excavating Xinjiang’s Local History from Manuscripts],” Silk Road Lecture Series No. 8, Xinjiang Normal University, Ürümqi, China, 27 May 2015. (In Chinese.)

“Immediate Execution and the State of Exception in the Qing,” The Place of the Law in the Late Chinese Empire, École Normale Supérieure Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Lyon, France, 12 May 2015.

“Life under *Li*: Law and Morality in Late-Qing Xinjiang,” Inner Asian Law and Society: Religion and Justice, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, 14 November 2014.

Other Conference and Workshop Presentations

“Law Without Law, Empire Within Empire: Zones of Exception in the Qing,” Panel: Emergency, Law, and the State in Asia, Social Science History Association Conference, Montreal, Canada, 5 November 2017.

“Changsha Marches West: the Dingxiang Wang Cult in Xinjiang,” Panel: State and Society in the Contact Zone: Historical Anthropology and the New Qing History, Association for Asian Studies in Asia, Kyoto, Japan, 25 June 2016.

“‘When the World Fell Apart’: the Muslim Uprisings as Personal and Historical Trauma,” Panel: Trauma and Memory in Modern Xinjiang (panel organizer) Association for Asian Studies, Seattle, WA, 1 April 2016.

“The Muslim Emperor of China: Sacred History and Apocalypticism in Xinjiang, 1870s–1920s,” A&S Religious Studies Workshop: Muslims Negotiating Modernities, Vanderbilt University, 19 September 2014.

TEACHING

University of Montana, Missoula, MT

East Asian Civilizations, Fall 2016, Spring 2018

- Large introductory lecture incorporates creative small-group activities to build competence with textual analysis and historical methods. Teaches “East Asia” as a transnational cultural and political formation. Student rating: 4.8/5.0

Politics in China, Spring 2018

- Medium-sized seminar uses interdisciplinary approach to contemporary China to test common assumptions and questions in social and political theory. Focus on social movements. Introduces critical reading of secondary literature. Student rating: 4.9/5.0
- Course included special postgraduate section conducted as one-on-one tutorials

Independent Study: Readings in Early China, Spring 2018

- One-on-one tutorial with guided readings in archaeological and textual approaches to early Chinese history.

Imperial China, Fall 2017

- Blended lecture/seminar studies China, 9th century–1799. Introduces different approaches to history. Creative synthetic assignments and research projects. Student rating: 4.9/5.0
- Translated many materials from Chinese to supplement course reader

Nationalism: Theories and Cases, Fall 2017

- Small-group tutorial with guided readings in nationalism theory. Introduces critical, postcolonial, Marxist, sociological, textual, and other approaches to groupness. Student rating: 5.0/5.0

Revolution and Reform in Modern China, Spring 2017

- Blended lecture/seminar studies China, 1799–present. Teaches history as argument through secondary readings, classroom research practica, and roleplay. Student rating: 4.85/5.0
- Course included special postgraduate section conducted as one-on-one tutorials

Chinese Political and Social Thought, Spring 2017

- Seminar with guided readings in Chinese thought, *Book of Documents* through present critiques. Teaches critical reading and relationship between politics and culture. Student rating: 4.8/5.0
- Course included special postgraduate section conducted as one-on-one tutorials

Independent Study: Qur'anic Exegesis, Spring 2017

- One-on-one tutorial with guided readings in interpretations of the Qur'an. Includes approaches from philology, gender studies, postmodernism, and postcolonialism.

Connecticut College, New London, CT

The Imperial Chinese World, Fall 2014 (See *Imperial China* above)

Modern China, Spring 2014, Fall 2014 (See *Revolution and Reform in Modern China* above)

Lesley University, Cambridge, MA

History of Modern China, Spring 2014 (See *Revolution and Reform in Modern China* above)

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Head Teaching Fellow, *Introduction to East Asian Civilizations (Sophomore Tutorial)*, Spring 2013

- Coordinated three other teaching fellows and tutorial schedules
- Organized weekly guest speakers and lectures
- Designed a common rubric for evaluating written work

Teaching Fellow, *China: Traditions and Transformations*, Fall 2014

- Designed and implemented lesson plans

Instructor, *Elementary Uyghur A–B*, Fall 2011–Spring 2012, Fall 2013–Spring 2014, Fall 2015

- Created original teaching materials for an immersion-based language course

Instructor, *Introduction to Chaghatay*, Spring 2016

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Assistant Instructor, *The Great Wall of China*, Fall 2009

ADVISING

Undergraduate

- Supervisor for undergraduate honours research projects in History at Harvard University (2015) and in History, Political Science, and East Asian Studies at the University of Montana (2017, 2018)

- Advise approximately 50 students annually in East Asian Studies, History, and History-Political Science at the University of Montana
- Advised approximately 30 students as Assistant Director of East Asian Studies at Harvard University

Postgraduate

- Thesis reader in History, University of Montana, 2017
- Supervisor of professional paper in Political Science, University of Montana, 2018
- Advise postgraduate students in History and Political Science with interests in East Asia, University of Montana, 2016–2018

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Asian Studies

American Historical Association

International Society for Chinese Law & History

Middle East Studies Association

SERVICE TO FIELD

Anonymous reviewer for *The China Quarterly*, *Central Asian Survey*, *Modern Asian Studies*, *Past Tense*, *Contemporary Islam*, *Islamic Law and Society*, *Journal of Islamic Studies*, and *Late Imperial China*.

Manuscript reviewer for Brill and Oxford University Press.

LANGUAGES

Professional-level speaking and reading: Mandarin Chinese, Uyghur

Reading knowledge: Classical Chinese, Chaghatay, German, Japanese, Persian, Manchu, Russian, Swedish, Uzbek