

The Changing World of Mongolia's Nomads

Melvyn C. Goldstein, Cynthia M. Beall



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The Changing World of Mongolia's Nomads Melvyn C. Goldstein, Cynthia M. Beall This beautifully illustrated book offers the first inside view of how the breakup of the Soviet bloc has affected this farthest republic and its nomadic peoples. The first Western scholars to be given permission to conduct fieldwork in Mongolia, Melvyn Goldstein and Cynthia Beall lived among a community of herders to study how they were adapting to Mongolia's transition to democracy and a market economy.

Weathering temperatures below zero, living in the nomads' *ger*, drinking *suteytsai* (milk-tea), eating *bordzig* (a pastry made from wheat dough) and pieces of solid fat (a Mongolian delicacy), Goldstein and Beall studied the seasonal migrations and traditional lifestyle of the nomads. They also watched as a herders' collective under the Marxist-Leninist system made the difficult transition to a shareholding company through the government's privatization reforms. The book's magnificent photographs and accompanying text introduce us to a proud people undergoing enormous change as their country emerges from years under communism. *The Changing World of Mongolia's Nomads* promises an engaging read for anyone interested in nomads, Mongolia, East and Central Asia, and the transformation of the Soviet Union.

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