



Research Article

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The Historical Significance of the Mongolian-Chinese Border Agreement

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Abstract: This article examines the origins and development of the southern borders of Mongolia and historical changes, in the second half of the last century, the "Border Agreement between the People's Republic of Mongolia and the People's Republic of China", one of the major events in the history of Mongolia, was successfully concluded, when and how the process of demarcating the southern border, the historical merits of its participants, the difficulties of demarcating the border, and how to ensure the security of the southern border, the demarcation of the border on the ground under the agreement will have a significant impact not only on the security of the two countries, but also on regional relations, as well as their contribution to the economic and social development of the country.

Keywords: Mongolian-Chinese Border Agreement, Southern Border, Demarcation

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THEORETICAL PART

A country's border is a line that demarcates the boundaries of a country's territory from the territory of a neighboring country. In addition, the formation of a country's borders is a gradual process of political and military relations between neighboring countries over a long period of history and is an important criterion for the independence of the country, which is enshrined in the fundamental national interests of the country, guaranteed by neighboring subjects and international agreements within the framework of modern international legal norms.

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

The Historical Tradition of the Southern Border

For Mongolians, who have long established their statehood in the highlands of Central Asia, the concept of borders and traditional knowledge have many characteristics that are very different from those of other countries. These features and distinctions are related to social forms, including nomadic herding, which is the main occupation, as well as natural and geographical areas suitable for livestock breeding (Arvai, 2015).

The first nomadic state established in Mongolia, the territory of the Hunnu, covered most of Central Asia, As the Hunnu grew stronger, the Han realized that they could not defeat them by force of arms, and sought a peaceful coexistence by concluding a peace treaty. As a result, the Han Chinese were forced to recognize the Hunnu as the most powerful state in Central Asia, and in 198 BCE, the Chinese signed the "HeQin" or peace

treaty (Eldev, 2020),.. In a letter to Laoshan Shanyu of the Hunnu in 162 BCE, King Xiao-Wendi of the Han Dynasty "The country of the archers after the Great Wall will follow the Shanyu order, and the country of the archers and hats of the Great Wall will be subject to me... The Han Dynasty and the Hunnu are powerful neighbors side by side. " is the first part of a treaty signed in 198 BCE and the general idea and purpose of the agreement can be considered as a border agreement.

Genghis Khan united many scattered tribes in 1206 to form the Great Mongol Empire it stretched from northern nature to the Great Wall of Tumen in the south, from the Hyangan Mountains in the east to the Altai Mountains in the west (Ganbaatar, 2011).

The territory of the Great Mongol Empire and its outer borders remained intact until the 17th century.

However, the political fragmentation that began in the 16th century weakened Mongolia's unity, The Mongols were divided into three relatively independent groups: Southern Mongolia, Khalkha Mongolia, and Western Mongolia, or Oirat. The natural and geographical effects of this division were significant. Southern and Khalkha Mongols were separated by the Great Gobi, and the Khalkha and Oirat Mongol boundaries ran along lakes, rivers, and streams between the Altai and Khangai mountains.

In 1632, King Ligden was defeated by the Manchus and his allies on his way to Khukh Lake, where he died at Yellow Steppe. In 1636, Southern Mongolia came under Manchu rule after the suppression of Ligden

Khan's struggle against the Manchus. With the conquest of Southern Mongolia by the Manchus, the then Mongolian border of the Great Wall was postponed to the southern edge of Khalkha Mongolia. As a result, the border line between Khalkha and Southern Mongolia became the border between Khalkha Mongol and Manchu in 1636.

In 1691, Khalkha Mongols came under Manchu rule, and the Khalkha-Southern Mongolian border became part of the Manchu Empire. Mongolia's borders also narrowed considerably to the west, forming the borders of the DZungarian Empire.

Since the Manchu and Qing dynasties came into power in 1691, Mongolia's current borders have a history of being "pastureland borders." For example, the Barga of Manchuria separated from Khalkha Mongolia, and in 1737-1838, they divided their pastures and erected ovoos and installed guards (Tseden-Ish, 1997).

Between Khalkha and Inner Mongolia provinces In 1695-1850 there was a constantly updated schedule of pastureland мөн By the treaty of Tsarist Russia, China, and Mongolia, the administrative boundaries of the Khovd region were changed and annexed to China. However, the persistent struggle for independence of the Mongolian people continued with the People's Revolution. Even from the years of the revolution, some of the frontiers have been protected, and our present southern frontier has been formed.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Although Mongolia's local counties have "household guards" who protect their territory and borders. They, like their nomadic herders, grazed their pastures in winter and summer, so there was no opportunity for them to keep their borders as they do now. For example, during the four seasons of the year, the Khalkh Barga border in the eastern part of the plateau and the Soyolz Uul border household guards are located close to the border. The southern border of Mongolia remained unoccupied until 1938, when guards from the Galbyn Gobi, the northern part of the Great Borzong Gobi, and the eastern edge of the Tsenkher Nomin Gobi, 150-250 km from the border, settled in the southern steppe and Gobi desert areas. Each has been left unattended and unguarded.

Uprisings and movements against Manchu rule took place in China and Mongolia in the early twentieth century. Representatives of the Khalkha princes, with the support of Tsarist Russia, overthrew the Manchu government, declared independence on November 29, 1911, enthroned the Jebtsundamba, and re-established the state as the Bogd Khanate (Troops, 1972).

In October 1913, Russia and China signed a declaration in Beijing agreeing to take over the Altai Territory from China and the Tagna Tuva Territory from

Tsarist Russia. In 1913, the Chinese government pushed a large army into Mongolia to forcibly annex the Altai Territory, occupying some areas, sparking an armed conflict between Mongolia and China. In December 1913, the Russian side was represented by MN Kuzminsky, the Russian consul in the Yellow Temple, and the Chinese side, on behalf of the Torguud van Balt, signed an agreement to cease hostilities and establish a demilitarized zone through the Altai Mountains to Tsagaan Tunge. By the 1915 Treaty of the Three Kingdoms Tsarist Russia and China forcibly hand over the demilitarized zone line in the Altai Mountains to Mongolia. In 1914, Tuva was annexed by Tsarist Russia. Thus, the territory of Mongolia along the southern slopes of the Altai Mountains, Khar Erchis, Chingil, Bulgan, Urungo rivers, and the basin of Urungur Lake came under Chinese control.

The borders of the Kingdom of Mongolia, established by the 1915 Treaty of Khiagt between Mongolia, Russia and China, form the basis of the external borders of present-day Mongolia. The Mongols lost their independence under the 1915 Khiag Treaty and were occupied by the Chinese military in 1919 and the victory of the national movement in the 1921 revolution ushered in a new era in twentieth-century Mongolian history, marked by profound socio-economic changes.

In early 1921, the People's Revolution, led by courageous Mongolian fighters against foreign oppression, won a historic opportunity to restore the country's independence. The historical merit of the national democratic revolution is that it has re-established an independent and sovereign Mongolia on the world stage and has preserved the country's borders, territories and traditional customs and culture.

The Yalta Agreement is one of the most important agreements for the fate of Mongolia in the 20th century. After the People's Revolution of 1921, the relentless efforts and struggles of the leaders of the then People's Republic of Mongolia provided an opportunity to secure Mongolia's independence through international legal instruments in what is now Yalta, Crimea, Russia. This was also due to Mongolia's commitment to the Soviet Union and its allies during World War II (Batbayar, 2021).

The Conference of the Heads of State of the Allies was held in Yalta on February 4-11, 1945, with eight sub-meetings. The conference discussed a wide range of issues, including the establishment of the United Nations, the European Declaration of Liberation, the Allied Powers in Germany, the borders of European countries, war payments and the trial of war criminals. The 14-item protocol was signed by the foreign ministers. The Yalta Agreement is of special historical significance to Mongolia and was signed by J. Stalin, F. Roosevelt and Winston S. Churchill. Two or three months after defeating Germany and ending the war in

Europe, the Soviet Union will side with the Allies in the war against Japan under the following conditions. One of these provisions is to maintain the status quo of Outer Mongolia (MPR).

At the Soviet-Chinese talks in Moscow after the Yalta Agreement, Stalin defined the "status quo of Outer Mongolia" as "the independence of the People's Republic of Mongolia". Following this position, the parties reached an agreement and on August 14, 1945, the Soviet Union and China signed the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance. The agreement was accompanied by a note stating that "China will recognize the independence of the People's Republic of Mongolia". Pursuant to the above provisions of the Treaty, the Chinese side began a referendum on the population of the People's Republic of Mongolia, and on October 20, 1945, a referendum was held for independence. The people of Mongolia voted 100 percent for their country's independence. Based on the proposal, on January 6, 1946, China Government officially recognized Mongolia's independence. The 35-year struggle of our ancestors, which began in 1911, has come to fruition and Mongolia has become a de jure or officially recognized sovereign state. Our Mongolians have a history of gaining international recognition and recognition of their independence.

This laid a solid foundation for the international recognition of Mongolia's independence and territorial integrity.

After World War II, the Civil War in China lasted for almost four years, ending in 1949, with the victory of the Communist Red Army led by the CCP, and on October 1, 1949, the People's Republic of China was officially proclaimed. The People's Republic of Mongolia was one of the first countries to recognize the new China, and on October 16, 1949, the two countries officially established diplomatic relations.

In a short period of time, the People's Republic of Mongolia and the People's Republic of China successfully developed political and economic relations and cooperation, and the pace of socialist construction was accelerating. At this point, the two governments began to take the initiative to finalize the long-defunct border and bring it into line with international law.

On November 21, 1957, for the first time, the Government of the People's Republic of Mongolia officially submitted a note to the Government of the People's Republic of China proposing negotiations to define the Mongolian-Chinese border as the "**current border**". B.Tseden-Ish, Counselor of the Embassy of the People's Republic of Mongolia in the People's Republic of China, took an active part in preparing this note and handing it over to the Government of the People's Republic of China.

On March 28, 1958, the Chinese government sent a reply stating that it agreed to negotiate the Sino-Mongolian border, and that the "**current border**" of the People's Republic of Mongolia was the basis for the demarcation of the border.

After receiving and studying the note, our People's Republic of Mongolia government drew a map of the "**current border**" that it had owned and protected since the victory of the People's Revolution and sent it to the Chinese government on July 18, 1958, accompanied by a note.

The Chinese side accepted the specific proposal on the border line and prepared for the border negotiations beginning in the autumn of 1958, a large number of groups and units were deployed along the border to measure the land, make maps, add new numbers and figures to the border ovals and signs, plant additional trees, and plant stakes. However, in the 1960s, the situation changed dramatically, and new families from the depths of China were relocated, brought closer to the border, and tried to leave traces of their possessions by demolishing, fencing, and replenishing wells in our territory.

In the early 1960s, the Central Committee of the MPRP established a border research expert group consisting of B. Tseden-Ish, M. Batkhuyag, B. Lamjav, and Kh. Sharav to prepare for border negotiations.

The border survey team visited the southern border four times in seven months, covering a total of 25,000 km and бөгөөд On the Chinese side, thousands of families with livestock have entered our abandoned and unprotected areas up to 10 km deep Ikh Khongorj, Baga Khavtag, Baitag Bogd, Gurvan Khuud, Bayan Mod, Kharaat and Bumbat rivers were discovered and repatriated in cooperation with local people.

A parallel study of the proposals of the People's Republic of Mongolia and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the state border Nearly one-third of the entire length of Mongolia's "current border" line is affected, a total of 16,767 km² of land in 27 areas, or one hundredth of our territory, was included in the border negotiations as disputed land.

Our government has instructed the Border Research Expert Group to develop a plan for border negotiations, a line of action, and steps to bring the two sides closer together Mongolia side have prepared a proposal to bring the issue of 554 km² of land in three parts, including Soyolz Uul, to the border negotiations for a total of 30 parts of 17,321 km².

The meeting of the border representatives of the two countries was opened by the Deputy Ministers on October 13, 1962 in Ulaanbaatar.

The first meeting on border issues began with B. Tsenden-Ish, Member of the Mongolian Delegation in charge of Territorial Affairs, explaining in detail the Mongolian delegation's position on the 30 disputed areas on a 15 m long map.

In response to our proposal, the Chinese delegation approved 16 of the 30 sites under discussion, made minor repairs to 5 sites, and maintained its proposals for 9 sites.

The heads of the two sides of the border commission discussed the above-mentioned territorial issues for half a month and finally agreed.

On November 17, 1962, the heads of delegations signed the first protocol defining the border negotiations between Mongolia and China.

The Mongolian-Chinese border agreement was signed on December 26, 1962 in Beijing by Yu. Tsendenbal, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mongolia and Zhou Enlai, Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and ratification of the treaty was exchanged on March 25, 1963 in Ulaanbaatar (Enkhjargal, 2019),.

The two countries have set up 17 joint border units to carry out field work to establish border lines and ovoos markers in the western mountains, southern deserts and eastern steppes along the state border, within three years, it is planned to erect 1,292 pillars on the border between the two countries.

The composition of the commission to demarcate the state border between the People's Republic of Mongolia and the People's Republic of China was appointed by the 5th resolution of the Central Committee of the MPRP on April 1, 1963.

According to the border agreement between the People's Republic of Mongolia and the People's Republic of China, the demarcation of the border line was completed in 1963-1964.

The work was completed in one year and 639 units (603 single, 29 numbered, 7 identical, and 547 cement columns, 106 stone ovoos, and 653 columns) were erected. A 105-page map of China with a scale of 1: 100,000, covering 5 km each on both sides of the border, has been published about China (Enkhjargal, 2019),.

Initially, it was difficult to comply with the provisions of the border agreement and determine the actual boundary line. First of all, there were many difficulties, such as the inexperience of the people on both sides, but due to the efforts of the parties, the work was completed on time.

At the end of the work on demarcating the state border between the two countries, the definition of the border line and its appendix were included in the map (M1: 100000), documents such as boundary markers and geodetic coordinates were developed.

In accordance with the border agreement of December 26, 1962, the demarcation of the border line was successfully carried out on the spot, The demarcation protocol was signed by D. Bataa, Deputy Chairman of the Mongolian Commission, and Lu Qing, Deputy Chairman of the Chinese Commission, in Beijing on June 30, 1964 (Shi,1993),. Later, the agreement was registered with the United Nations on October 9, 1975, and our southern border was internationally confirmed.

Thus, the Mongolian-Chinese border has changed over the centuries, Registered with the United Nations since the middle of the twentieth century, protected by international law, The current border zone, border regime, and border agreements have been established as the border of friendship between Mongolia and China.

The "Border Agreement between the People's Republic of China and the People's Republic of China" signed on December 26, 1962 was registered in the UN Secretariat's Register of International Agreements No. 14375 on October 9, 1975. The southern border of the country is internationally secured (Arvai, 2010)

The Government of Mongolia and the Government of the People's Republic of China conducted a second joint border inspection between 2001 and 2004, A geodetic network consisting of 120 points was established and topographic maps were drawn on a scale of 1: 50,000 on land and at a scale of 1: 10,000 on the surface of water. According to the inspection, the total length of the border line between Mongolia and China is 4709 km. In terms of geographical coordinates and altitude, it has the ITRF coordinate system and the Baltic Sea altitude system(General, 2009).

CONCLUSION

The peaceful conclusion of the Mongolian-Chinese border agreement reaffirms that the two countries have no unresolved border issues, Thus, the Agreement on Friendly Relations and Cooperation between Mongolia and the People's Republic of China was renewed in 1994, In 2003, the two sides established good-neighborly, trusting and partnership relations, in 2011, Mongolia-China strategic partnership, In order to reach the level of a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2014, the historic Border Agreement of 1962, the relevant documents and the results of the joint border inspection played a decisive role.

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