

Монголын Сүм Хийдийн Түүхэн Товчоо Төсөл

UBR 940

Rinchen 940 - Züün salaanii khural

English name: Assembly in Züün salaa

The temple site is at the current area of Tolgoit, in (Tolgoitiin) Züün salaa, on the north-west of Ulaanbaatar.

GPS was taken at the final bus stop of Züün salaa, as the exact location is unknown.

Elevation: 1440 m

N 47°59.664'

E106°53.157'

Data provider: Dr O. Pürew

Source: Pürew, O., *Mongoliin улс төрийн төв*. Ulaanbaatar 1994

Photos: none

History

This temple was situated in Tolgoit, a mountain and the surrounding area to the north-west of Ulaanbaatar. The two side valleys in the mountain north-west of Ulaanbaatar are called Züün salaa and Baruun salaa (right and left branches of the road/valley). Prior to 1937 there was a small temple or chapel in each valley, which were visited mainly by nomads from the surrounding area.

Today, two smaller valleys can be reached from the final bus stop of Züün salaa. The one to the north, called *Lam nariin baaz/lager*, is now full of weekend houses, while the one to the north-east is military territory, which cannot be entered. According to the soldiers interviewed in the survey, there are no ruins in this valley and no-one could be found who had heard of the temple.

The Bayankhoshuu monastery (*Namdoldechinlen khiid, Jagarmolomiin neremjit ulaan yosnii töw*, located nearby, see New temple 18 UB 18) disciplinary master informed us that the temple was in the place called *Lam nariin baaz/lager* ('the weekend area with weekend houses of lamas') in the valley north of the final bus stop. He mentioned Bayan khulgait as another name for the place and has even visited it searching for the ruins, but, according to him, there is nothing left. Pürew (*Mongoliin улс төрийн төв*, p. 71) gives a different location for this temple, claiming it was situated in the valley called Belgüünii am.

According to Pürew, *Züün salaanii khural*, like *Baruun salaanii khural*, was a chapel for the worship of water spirits (*lus sawdag*, Tib. *klu sa-bdag*) and only ever had a temporary assembly. These kind of smaller temples scattered on the outskirts of the capital were neglected after 1937-38 and nowadays nothing remains of them. According to Pürew (*Mongoliin улс төрийн төв*, p. 71), this temple was destroyed in 1937-38.

Current situation

Presumably there are no remains left. The exact site was not found having contradictory data on its exact location. The whole area is built over with weekend houses.