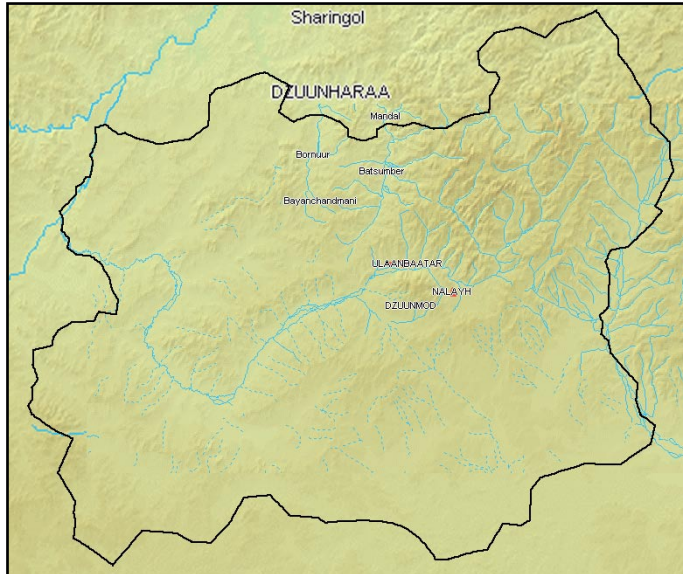


**REGION**



Pic. 1: map

**FACTS**

<b>Surface:</b>	74.000 sqkm
<b>Inhabitants:</b>	111.000 (without Ulaanbaatar)
<b>Center:</b>	Zuunmod Town
<b>Life Expectancy:</b>	67 (F) / 62 (M)
<b>Language:</b>	Mongol
<b>Religion:</b>	Buddhist Lamaist 50%

**INTRODUCTION**

Tuv (central) Aimag is situated around Ulaanbaatar, which is an autonomous municipality. It has a quite good infrastructure, as lots of roads and governmental structures still remain from the communist era, when Soviet funds kept the country

**Images:**

Pic. Nr 1: source: <http://www.demis.nl/home/pages/wms/demiswms.htm>

Pic. Nr 2-5: Paul Lambeck, 2005

on its feet. It has a network of quite good paved and unpaved roads which are well used by the growing number of Mongolians owning a car. Some kilometers north of Ulaanbaatar, the GORKHI-TERELJ national park, a popular destination both for tourists and Mongolian trippers, is situated.

There are many deposits of coal, iron ore, lead, tungsten, rocky crystal, spar, turquoise, azurite, mica, chalcedony, tin, gold and copper. Tuv aimag produces 22 percent of grain production, and 35 percent of vegetable production of Mongolia.

**HISTORIE**

Tuv Aimag was established in 1931 as a province. The system of aimags (the Mongolian word for province) was first established under the domination of China and continued even after independence was declared in 1911.

**CLIMATE**

Located at about 1500m above sea level, the winters in Tuv Aimag are very cold (daily average -25° C). Most of the precipitation falls in summer, annual average precipitation is about 300mm in the flats and 400mm in the mountainous areas. Summers get quite hot at an average daily temperature of 20° C.

**TOPOGRAPHY**

Around Ulaanbaatar, mountains rise over 2800m. The area north of Ulaanbaatar in which the GORKHI-TERELJ national park



Pic. 2: horse racing outside of Ulaanbaatar

**Literature:**

- Bertelsmann Universal Lexikon, Das Wissen unsere Zeit von A-Z, Bertelsmann Lexikon Verlag GmbH, Gütersloh 1991
- Die Brockhaus Völkerkunde, Bild der Völker, Band 8, Vorderasien und Nordafrika, Europaverlag, 1974
- Der Große Coron, Das moderne Nachschlagewerk in 20 Bänden, Coron Verlag, 1993
- Area Handbook for Mongolia, T. N. Dupuy/ W. Blanchard, 1970

is situated is also known as „Mongolian Switzerland“, due to its mountainous topographie. The valleys in this area are still used by nomad families as winter camps, as the mountains offer good wind protection.

The south-western part is flat steppe terrain. The soil is pale brown and very fertile. The area around Ulaanbaatar is over-pasturized and the soil shows visible scars of the herds, which are driven to the city to feed the fast growing population.



Pic. 4+5: the roots of the Nadaam festival are the preparations for looting campaigns in the times of Chengis Khan.

**VEGETATION**

Various trees such as Siberian cedar, larch, poplar, sallick, pine grow in the basin of Khentii mountains. Common are apple manus, wild cherry, black currant, wild rose fruits, rare liquorice, hippobopae, and medical herbs such as plaintain, bergenia, rooseroot, thorniopsis.

**ETHNICAL GROUPS**

Ethnic groups include the Khaikh, the Kazakhs, and the Barga. Around Ulaanbaatar, many seminomadic or permanent settlements are to be found, many of them serving as trading posts for the nomadic families. The big number of lamaistic buddhist monasteries, which used to be in this area before the stalinist purges in the 1930s, are partly been restored as the lamaistic buddhist religion gains back its importance,

**Websites:**

<http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/r1700.shtml>