**Panel 43. Tibetan textual studies from the Mongolian perspective: terminology and translation**

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**Panel description**

Tibetan literature has been historically transmitted in a variety of forms, including manuscripts, woodblock prints, and other mediums. Preserved forms of Tibetan documents often appear in a variety of copies, which typically differ from each other. Due to this issue, a development in the study of Tibetan texts in Mongolia involves comparing and examining multiple copies of one primary document in order to identify the deviations or discrepancies from the original source. Also, this method is used to ascertain the reasons for the variations in order to gain a better understanding and clarity of the source.

This panel will focus on the following two major aspects of current studies of Tibetan primary documents in Mongolia:

The examination of the older, and therefore more unclear, terms and idioms in Tibetan literary sources. This process includes the identification of possible errors occurring in manuscripts, comparative analysis of documents, and cataloguing documents in an effort to elucidate the evolutionary process of changes seen in the copies.

The translation of Buddhist literature from Tibetan language into Mongolian. The reading of Mongolian texts without comparison or reference to the Tibetan primary sources results in a misunderstanding of the document. The panel will discuss the need for reading Tibetan primary sources in tandem with the Mongolian translations in order to gain a proper understanding of the translation, especially when dealing with translations into Cyrillic and modern Mongolian.

The panel will highlight the importance of Tibetan linguistics, vocabulary, and composition of Tibetan sources in the context of these two issues in the study of Tibetan primary documents.