

The logo for Altai Mir University features the word "ALTAI" in a stylized purple font with a yellow sun-like circle above the 'A', and "MIR" in a similar purple font below it. Underneath, the word "UNIVERSITY" is written in a dark blue, sans-serif font.

ALTAI
MIR
UNIVERSITY





mission

Together, we access peace by bridging ancient wisdom with today's world.

objectives

- We facilitate the use of the unique energy field of Altai as a resource for global renaissance.
- The best of the carefully sustained wisdom of indigenous cultures forms a framework for sustainable human existence on Earth.
- The valuable culture and ecology of the Altai region are internationally nurtured according to local indigenous leadership, so that the legacy is available to meet global needs, especially the health and spiritual resources for which the region is renowned.
- Special efforts are made to find positive, inclusive solutions to the issue of land registration and ownership—especially communal and ancestral lands.

from the president

Altai is truly a land “over the rainbow”! The more time I spend there, the better I am able to see the vast profundity of this sacred land and culture! Either through the direct effect of the energy on me or through the increasing trust with which Altai elders have gifted me, I am ever more deeply and constantly aware of the power of this place. I literally see it as sparkles of light in my peripheral vision and as sudden images and insights that flash into my mind. And I feel it with ever more frequent and enduring periods of physical ecstasy as my heart chakra opens wider.

Mystical stuff—this—that I discover is validated by an increasing body of Western science. I can hardly wait for the West to catch up to what is obvious in Altai. Elder Danil Mamyev, when confronted by sustained skepticism from a Western visitor, exclaimed, “Western science is young, like an adolescent. We only hope that our ancient cultures survive the West’s adolescence!”

This year, I initiated the popular “Reports from the Field” somewhat-monthly e-mail newsletter, with a new photo each time of me “in the field.” I’m branching out now to other people “in the field” as well. Back issues are under the “blog” link on our web site.

I continue to be amazed by the productivity of our main Altai partner Svetlana Katynova. She keeps uncovering projects that she’s worked on for decades, such as her sustained support of a group of promising young throat-singers, her definitive tome about sacred places in the Ust Koksa District, her ongoing success in bringing Altai’s ancient heritage back into Gorno-Altai, and the several cultural centers she is developing. Thank you, Sveta!

And thank you, to our generous donors!



milestones

Objective: We facilitate use of the unique energy field of Altai as a resource for global renaissance.

- We initiated global meditations to protect the sacred Ukok Plateau in Altai, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which is under imminent threat of total desecration with planned construction of a gas pipeline between Russia and China. Russia has a 20-kilometer border with China on the edge of this ancient site.
- We also facilitated an international meditation to protect the living waters of Mother Earth, initiated by Marshall Jack of the Washoe Nation. Our primary contribution was to organize the planting of a specific crystal into the waters of Lake Issik-kul in Kyrgystan. Crystals planted in eight lakes worldwide formed a grid to support the water. Of particular concern was the Colorado River, from which so much water has been withdrawn that it no longer outflows into the ocean—endangering the existence of indigenous nations near the Colorado’s mouth who depend on the river’s water.
- Several of our “Painting Light” and “Archetypal Mask-Making” workshops in Russia and the US facilitated people’s re-connection with their creative abilities (and were great fun as well!)
- We organized and sponsored two seminars in the Seattle area on the “Ceremonial Change Process” offered by Patricia-Anne Davis, a Navaho wisdom-keeper.
- The Altai energy field generated by the paintings of Carol Hiltner was made available to the public in the Seattle area with two month-long exhibitions.
- Carol joined the steering committee of the new “3231 Creatives” community arts center in Everett, Washington, which is dedicated to the creation of sustainable livelihoods for local artists in all media.



milestones

Objective: The best of the carefully sustained wisdom of indigenous cultures forms a framework for sustainable human existence on Earth.

- Carol contributed an article on foreign experience with Altai's sacred sites to the new book about sacred sites in the Ust Koksa District (where Mt. Belukha is). This book, whose publication in Altai, Russian, English, and German languages is being funded by the Altai Republic Ministry of Tourism, is the result of five years of comprehensive independent research by indigenous Altai philologist Svetlana Katynova, who interviewed and documented the memories of the remaining Altai elders about the Altai culture prior to the massive collectivization and murder of indigenous leaders during the Stalinist years. Not only is this book a crucial primary document for anthropologists, but it also provides sacred sites' locations and lore, which are necessary for the protection of these sites.
- We participated in the Altai Alliance—a confederation of the American nonprofit organizations working in the Altai Republic. The purpose of the organization is coordinate international efforts for optimal outcomes.

Objective: The valuable culture and ecology of the Altai region are internationally nurtured according to local indigenous leadership, so that the legacy is available to meet global needs, especially the health and spiritual resources for which the region is renowned.

- Our main efforts this year have been in support of sustainable re-establishment of indigenous throat-singers as village resources for healing and connection with Source.
- We successfully nominated the now-under-construction sound healing center in Tyungur Village, Ust Koksa District, for the \$2,500 RUHeartUK Award by the Fred Foundation.
- We collaborated with NCEEER to get US State Department funding for post-doc research in Altai.



milestones



- Additionally, we provided a transportation/food grant to a group of student throat-singers, enabling them to participate in El Oyin—the biennial Altai peoples’ national celebration.
- We fulfilled a request from a librarian in the Karakol Valley, Onguday District, by bringing 20 beginning English-language readers books from the US. We will continue to bring these books.
- Our continuing effort to reduce human pollution at the base of sacred Mt. Belukha through the installation of a new pit toilet for pilgrims was fulfilled with the construction of a new toilet at the main campground. We never said it wasn’t rustic! It was finally built by the Mountain Rescue Service, to which we contributed \$1000 for that purpose five years ago. An interim toilet, which we also funded, had already been filled with trekkers’ garbage.
- We were honored to be able to support the work of two international activists who are now turning their attention to Altai Republic—Arita Baaijens, a journalist from the Netherlands and Wayne Poulsen, a principal in BioRegions International and initiator of the Arts & Artisans program next door in Mongolia.

Objective: Special efforts are made to find positive, inclusive solutions to the issue of land registration and ownership—especially communal and ancestral lands.

- Funds provided by our donors continue to support litigation to retrieve prime indigenous lands “bought” by speculators for as little as \$30/acre, by preying on the alcoholics in each clan.

The way the Russian federal privatization program was set up, large tracts of land were assigned by family group—supposedly to be distributed within the clan. What actually happened was that, for many years, indigenous people were prevented from registering their land, while speculators picked off every clan’s best land. The suits concluded thus far have been found in favor of the indigenous people.

looking ahead

- Our big initiative for 2011 is the International Altai Expedition, with a “Peace-Mapping Summit” and an environmental clean-up, set for the latter half of July. We will be working under the auspices of the UNESCO.
- We will continue our ongoing programs in support of indigenous land registration and the re-establishment of sustainable traditional livelihoods that enable young people to stay in their village cultures.
- We look forward to seeing the progress on the construction of two cultural centers in Tyungur Village: the throat-singers’ healing center beyond the village in a gorgeous spot next to the Katun River; and a more public cultural center on the near edge of the village. The second center will focus on teaching traditional livelihoods to villagers from all over Altai, and will facilitate cooperative marketing and management. It will also serve as an access point for Mt. Belukha pilgrims to connect with the local culture.
- Carol will continue to exhibit reproductions of her paintings (most of the originals remain in Altai where they were painted), as well as give workshops to help people access their own creativity.
- As opportunities arise, we will continue to facilitate the dissemination of the ancient wisdom both of Altai and our Native American nations.
- All donations to Altai Mir University go directly toward our work in Altai unless otherwise designated.





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www.AltaiMir.org

Comprehensive reports, with photos, of our initiatives are available on our website.

Unaudited financial report available on request.

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