

Preface

Dear readers, with this third issue of our periodical “北冰洋研究期刊 . Journal of Arctic Studies” (JAS) we are presenting a collection of papers from different fields of Arctic studies, such as research on human-animal- / human-environmental-relations (e. g. history of reindeer breeding, role of fishing in the neolithic period, bowhead whaling — especially according to interpretations of the International Polar Year Collections, crane dances — among the Kalmyks, traditional knowledge of the Chuckchee regarding the walrus / walrus hunting on Chukotka peninsula), archaeology, history of sciences (e. g. history of Siberian petroglyph studies in Imperial Russia), researches on cultural changes (e. g. of the peoples at the reaches of the Lower Amur) and several aspects of folk art as well as demography, economic and educational development (e. g. the effects of language policy—a case study on Tuvian language in Tuva Republic), the relations of the “Near Arctic peoples” of China and adjacent regions to the environment and natural resources in past and present or the current situation of the ethnic groups in question (mostly Altaic groups of China, but also Nivkhs and Chukotka natives). In this issue for the first time a bilingual section — “Observations on the Frontier” —, in which an article is given in English as well as in Chinese language is included (Eduard Zdor / Liyudmila Ainana / Liliya Zdor: “Contemporary Chukotka native people and traditional knowledge about the walrus” / 当代楚科奇人与海象传统知识研究).

The editors wish to express their hope that this third issue of our “Journal of Arctic Studies” will find the interest of you, the readers.

Michael Knüppel, co-editor-in-chief