

Dai MATSUI: Mongol Decrees and the Uigur Script

The literacy of the Mongols was created after the earliest thirteenth century, when the Turkic Uigurs submitted to them and brought the so-called Uigur script. The script became an indispensable tool for the Mongol rule and administration and its use stretched as far as their dominion on vast Eurasia.

During the last quarter-century, the brand-new source materials in the Uigur script of the Mongol era have been exposed to the academic circles. This presentation re-assesses the significance of the Uigur script in the chancellery practice of the Mongol edicts and decrees. Furthermore, the Uigur literacy of the post-Mongol period will be briefly analyzed.