MONGOLIAN TRADITIONAL CALLIGRAPHY

The Mongolian nations have created and used various scripts since ancient times and they keep a complex tradition of calligraphy. Mongolian calligraphy has strictly-observed writing symbols called tig (glyph).

ANCIENT GLYPH

Ancient Mongolian historical chronicles, inscriptions on monuments, and royal letters and documents are written in ancient scripts, using graceful, yet hard-pointed writing tools. Historical and cultural objects with inscriptions, made with the help of a bamboo-brush, and engravings are abundant in Mongolia.
PENMANSHIP GLYPH

When writing with diligent style, all the traits, lines, points, and dots are written with great legibility. Beginners use the diligent style to learn to write using Mongolian script. By mastering Mongolian script letter components, such as atsag and shūd with this glyph, one can learn the other glyphs easily.

STENOGRAPHY

In Mongolian script stenography, the main line is written short or long, according to the number of atsag and shūd. Stenography is sometimes called précis-writing as well. Artistic and fast stenograph is the highest form of calligraphy.
The running glyph is thought to have originated from the jotting down of conversations and dialogues. Running glyph is a unique form of handwriting in between the diligent glyph and stenography. (As Mongolian script is vertical, this type of script also appears in a vertical way.) Researchers note that running glyph emerged in the second half of the nineteenth century.

Folded glyphs appear on the seals and stamps of the Yuan Dynasty of the thirteenth century, on which letters are folded in accordance with the folding way of the Mongolian script. Using the Mongolian folded glyph, letters can be written in various forms, including square, circle, and vertical forms. Folded glyphs in various artistic forms look like beautiful ornaments and they are given different names, such as 'folded script', 'stylized writing', 'ornamental character' and 'couple melody'.

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