

Centre for the Humanities and Medicine  
The University of Hong Kong

Convergence and Collisions: Disease, Religion, and Healing in Asia

**The Method-and-Wisdom Model in Theoretical Syncretism of the  
Traditional Mongolian Medicine**

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This presentation will analyze the method-and-wisdom (*arga bilig*) principle, with its theoretical and practical applications in the Mongolian traditional medicine. It will demonstrate the ways in which the Mongolian Buddhist physicians formulate a medical theory by combining the Buddhist doctrinal and philosophical views with Sāṃkhya's theory of the operation of the three *guṇas* constituting *prakṛti*, and with Taoist principle of the *yin* and *yang*, and the ways in which this principle provided the Buddhist identity to the traditional Mongolian medicine.