

István Sántha	<i>Status senior research fellow, Department of Non-European Studies</i>
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e-mail:	santha.istvan at btk.mta.hu
Language competencies:	English (fluent), Russian (fluent), Evenki (Manchu-Tungus; speaking), Buryat (Mongol; speaking-reading), and Hungarian (mother)
Scientific degree:	Mongolian linguistics (2004), ELTE University, Budapest, Department of Inner Asian Studies (supervisor: Professor György Kara – Indiana University, Bloomington): Social Organization of the Buryats at West of Lake Baikal, the cases of (a Steppe and a Taiga) Ekhirit communities
Fields of interest, research topics, keywords:	Social anthropology, South and East Siberia, Evenki Buryat, Tofa, jade, photographic and video analysis, Bateson, cybernetic approach
Other contacts:	Santha-safonova facebook.com

Education, Degree

Cartography, Geography and Hydrology (1996),
Cultural Anthropology (1998, supervisor: Dr Mihály Sárkány) ELTE University Budapest

Awards, Honours

Junior researcher award, Hungarian academy of sciences 2003.

Employment

Department for non-European Cultures (Social Anthropology), Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for Humanities, Hungarian Academy of Sciences 1999-
Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge (UK) 2012-4
Siberian Studies Centre, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology 2003-4

Career

senior research fellow

Research Activities

Research projects

2012-15: Where Rising Powers Meet China and Russia at their North Asian Border (headed by Professor Caroline Humphrey, Mongolia and Inner Asian Studies Unit, University of Cambridge)

2012-14: Unaccountability as Indigenous Business Management among the Evenki people in East Siberia (Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship, Department of Social

Anthropology, University of Cambridge)

2013-4: Scientific Heritage of Ethel J. Lindgren, the Field Researcher anthropologist of Manchurian Reindeer-herder Evenki between 1929-32, Department of Social Anthropology and Museum of Archeology and Anthropology, University of Cambridge, headed by David, G. Anderson (Aberdeen University) - Leverhulme Small Grant

2009-12: Culture Contacts in the Borderland of Taiga and Steppe - Hungarian Scientific Research Fund

2008-10: Power and Emotion in Russia, collaborator: Dr. N. Ssorin-Chaikov, Wenner-Gren Foundation

2008-9: Loosing Culture: Evenki in Russia (UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi)

2005-7: 'House of Culture' project, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Halle/Saale, Germany)

2003- 2004: Ethnicity, Land and Hunting, Social Ties in Different Eco-zones of the Baikal Region, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Halle/Saale, Germany)

2003 ECHO-NECEP programme (EU-funded scientific project for description of non-European cultures) Description of the Evenki and Tungus People (with A. Lavrillier (France) EPHE, Paris-Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Ethnology, Budapest, <http://www.ehess.fr/centres/necep>)

Field Experience

2008-2009 Baunt Evenki-Orochens (11 months)

2006 Western Buryats, Kurumkan Evenkis (5 months)
2005 Taiga and steppe Buryats, Ulan-Ude, Chita, South-Yakutia
2004 Evenkis in Eastern Buyatia
2003 South Irkutsk Evenki

2000 Western Buryats (9 months)

1999 Central Chita Evenki
1998 Tofa, Western Buryats
1997 Western Buryats
1995 Western Buryats, North Chita Evenkis
1994 Yssyk-köl Kirgiz
1993 Western Buryats

Service Activities

Organizing Conference

Hunter-gatherers and Mining (Jade-workshop). Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna. 28 November 2014

Hunter-gatherers round table discussion. Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna. 21 July 2014

Jade-workshop. Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge. 12 and 13 May of 2014

"Anthropology in the Russian Language" A Panel Discussion on the Challenges and Opportunities of Interlingual Translation. Cambridge Committee for Russian and East European Studies, University of Cambridge. Clare College, 4 February 2014 (with Rory Finnin)

'Everything is still before you': being young in Siberia today. Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Siberian Studies Centre, Halle/Saale, Germany. 13–15 November 2003

Teaching Activities

Supervision: University of Cambridge, Department of Social Anthropology
Advanced Social Anthropology II: Political Economy and Social Transformations” seminar headed by Professor Harri Englund:
Political Economy (lectures by Professor Englund)
Citizenship (Dr Lazar)
Sovereignty and Governmentality (Dr Kaplonski and Dr Lynteris)
Contemporary Capitalism (Dr Lazar)
Political Gifts (Dr Ssorin-Chaikov)
State, Society, Technology and Politics (Dr. Pinker)

Publications

[Publications in the Repertory of Hungarian Scientific Works](#)

Other scientific publications

Reviews about his works:

Szibéria-kutatás ma. Gondolatok, vélemények és megközelítések. Sántha István – Tatiana Safonova: Az evenkik földjén. Kulturális kontaktusok a Bajkál-vidéken. (Siberian studies now. Thoughts, opinions and approaches. About I. Santha – T. Safonova's *In Evenki land. Culture Contact in Baikal Region*) Budapest. Balassi. 2011. 240 oldal + 1 ív képmelléklet + DVD. *Tabula* 2011 14 (1-2): 161-192.:

Uray-Kőhalmi Katalin (†): Kósza gondolatok (Sporadic thoughts) Sántha István és Tatiana Safonova könyvével kapcsolatban: 162-163.

Nagy Zoltán: Kinek a könyve? (Whose book?): 163-168.

Ruttkay-Miklián Eszter: Szabadság, egyenlőség, evenkiség (Liberty, Equality and Evenki): 169-172.

Mészáros Csaba: Az antropológiai ismeretek természetéről (About the nature of the anthropological notions): 172-177.

Sántha István- Tatiana Safonova: *Hogyan lehet megérteni a könyvünket?* (How our book could be understood): 177-192.

Legrain, L.: Book review: Culture Contact in Evenki Land. A Cybernetic Anthropology of the Baikal Region, written by Tatiana Safonova & István Sántha. *Inner Asia*, Volume 16, Issue 1: 215 – 217

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/22105018-12340011>

Funk, D. A.: Сафонова Т., Шанта И. Встречи на эвенкийской земле : кибернетическая антропология Байкальского региона. – СПб.: Алетейя, 2013. – 176 с.: ил. ISBN 978-5-91419-889-0. In: СИБИРСКИЕ ИСТОРИЧЕСКИЕ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯ (SIBERIAN HISTORICAL RESEARCH), 2014 No 2.: 134-8 (csatolt pdf)

Ventsel, A. THREE BOOKS ABOUT EVENKI.

Анна А. Сирина. *Эвенки и эвены в современном мире. Самосознание, природопользование, мировоззрение* [Anna A. Sirina. *Evenki and Eveni in the Modern World. Identity, Nature Relations, World View*]. Moskva: Vostochnaia literature, 2012. 604 pages

Ольга А. Поворознюк. *Забайкальские эвенки. Социально-экономические и культурные трансформации в XX–XXI* [Olga A. Povorozniuk. *Baikal-Region Evenki. Social-Economic and Cultural Transformations in the 20th and 21st Century*]. Moskva: IEA RAN, 2011

Tatiana Safonova & Istvan Santha. *Culture Contact in Evenki Land. A Cybernetic Anthropology of the Baikal region*. Leiden & Boston: Global Oriental, 2013.

Folklore 56, 2014: 169-173

<http://www.folklore.ee/folklore/vol56/b03.pdf>

Translations

“Hangalov gyűjtőfüzeteiből (1909)” [From the Diaries of *M.N. Xangalov*, the Buryat Ethnographer (1909)]. *Népi kultúra – Népi társadalom*. Akadémiai kiadó Budapest, 2003: 273-300

Ki mutatta meg Galina Keptuke apjának a sámánutat. Csonka Takács Eszter – Czövek Judit – Takács András (szerk.): *Mir-susné-xum. Tanulmánykötet Hoppál Mihály tiszteletére*. Budapest 2002. Akadémiai Kiadó: 883-891

Source publications

Halkuló sámándobok: Diószegi Vilmos szibériai naplói és levelei, I (1957-1958). [Fading Shaman Drums: the Siberian diaries and letters of Vilmos Diószegi, vol. I (1957-1958)]. Edited: István Sántha. Budapest: MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet; L'Harmattan Kiadó. 2002 (Editor)

Database, bibliography, dictionary, webpage

Evenki Culture and Society. ECHO-NECEP programme (EU-funded scientific project). Paris, 170 pp. Description on the bases of questionnaire for a web-site 2004. (in collaboration with A. Lavrillier (EPHE, Paris), <http://www.ehess.fr/centres/necep>

Map

Phantom territories in Russia and China. In: Billé, F.: Territorial phantom pains (and other cartographic anxieties). *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 2014, volume 32: 166
<http://www.envplan.com/abstract.cgi?id=d20112>

“Map showing Hungarian travellers in Manchuria and Mongolia (1877-1931)”. In: Santha, I.: Hungarian Witnesses of Infrastructure Construction in Manchuria (1877-1931): The Case of the Eastern Chinese Railway. *Inner Asia* (Brill), 16/2014: 154

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/22105018-12340008>

Diószegi Vilmos 1957-es szibériai kutatóútja. Diószegi Vilmos szibériai naplói, levelezése I. (1957-58). MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet - L'Harmattan Kiadó 2002. (Siberian Fieldwork of Diószegi Vilmos in 1957)

Diószegi Vilmos 1958-as szibériai kutatóútja. Diószegi Vilmos szibériai naplói, levelezése I. (1957-58). MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet - L'Harmattan Kiadó 2002. (Siberian Fieldwork of Diószegi Vilmos in 1958)

Dél-Szibéria népei. Diószegi Vilmos szibériai naplói, levelezése I. (1957-58). MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet - L'Harmattan Kiadó 2002. (South-Siberian Peoples)

Szibéria népei. Diószegi Vilmos szibériai naplói, levelezése I. (1957-58). MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet - L'Harmattan Kiadó 2002 (Siberian Peoples)

Mongolische Völker, 4 etnikai térkép (Horváth Zsolttal közösen) és 4 burját fénykép. In.: Die Mythologie der Mongolischen Volksreligion von Ágnes Birtalan. Wönerbuch der Mythologie. Die Alten Kulturvölker. Ed: E. Schmalzriedt-H.W. Haussig. 2001.

Mandschu-Tungusische Völker. 3 etnikai térkép és 2 evenki fénykép. In: U Kóhalmi Käthe: Mandschu-Tungusische Mythologie. Götter und Mythen. Wönerbuch der Mythologie. Ed: E. Schmalzriedt-H.W. Haussig. Bonn 1997.

Film, photography & multimedia

Mukha a beautiful dog. 13 min, 2013 (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Unaccountability. 13 min, 2012 (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Jirga, Spring 2006. 21 min, 2011 (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova), Published in: *Az evenkik földjén. Kulturális kontatusok a Bajkál-vidéken.* (In Evenki Land. Culture Contact in the Baikal Region). Balassi Kiadó, Budapest 2011: 237 p., 3 photographic plate, 10 original maps, 1 list colour picture, Dvd-appendix (Tatiana Safonova-val)

A Heritage. 2004. (Directed by Zoltán Füredi, field shoot by I. Sántha)

Magyarként született hantiként halt meg. (Born Hungarian, died Hanty. Heritage of Eva Schmidt in Siberia. 2002-2003.

Éren. Tárgy és ember: bálvány és antropológus. [Eren, Object and human: amulet and the anthropologist]. Mátyási Áron portéfilmje a Filmművészeti Főiskolán. 2001

Sámán mítosz I. (Shaman Myth; with Eva Schmidt and David Somfai) Itt van a kutya elásva. II. Vérrel pecsételve. Rendezte: Halmy György. MTV 1. 2002. (120 min) (Schmidt Éva, Sántha István, Somfai Dávid, Erdei Katalin)

Tofák. (The Tofa) MTV 1. Tranzit 1998 december (26 min.)

Szibériai és közép-ázsiai nők Magyarországon. (Women from Siberia and Central Asia in

Hungary) MTV 1. Tranzit 1999 június (30 min.)

Keleti szél 1998 tavasza: riportok grúz és jakut zenészekkel [Eastern wind: Interviews with Georgian and Yakut musicians]. In: Körző. (10 min.)

Sztyepanida Boriszova jakut énekesnő [Stepanida Borisova Yakut folk singer]. In: Körző 1997 ősze (8 min.)

Photos

Getting Back the Spirit; photo-exhibition on the internet www.tar.hu/renradio

Die Mongolischen Völker. 4 photos about Buryats. In: Die Mythologie der Mongolischen Volksreligion von Ágnes Birtalan. Wönerbuch der Mythologie. Die Alten Kulturvölker. Ed: E. Schmalzriedt-H.W. Haussig., Bonn 2001.

Die Mandschu-Tungusischen Völker. 2 photos about Evenkis. In: U Köhalmi Kätthe: Mandschu-Tungusische Mythologie. Götter und Mythen. Wönerbuch der Mythologie. Ed: E. Schmalzriedt-H.W. Haussig. Bonn 1997.

Sound recordings

Burját népzene- hangkazetta és Cd. Gyűjtötte és feldolgozta Sántha István. Trottell Records és a Gondolkodó Antikvárium 1997, 2000. (Buryat Folk Music, insert also in English)

Kirgiz népzene- hangkazetta. Gyűjtötte és feldolgozta Sántha István. Trottell Records és a Gondolkodó Antikvárium 1997. (Kirgiz Folk Music, insert also in English)

Exhibitions

Bajkál. [Baikal photo exhibition]. 1993. január, Fal-galéria, Székesfehérvár.

Almásy György emlék-kiállítás. [Georg von Almasy memorial exhibition]. 1997 június-szeptember Néprajzi Múzeum.

Burjátok, ehritek és bulagatok [Buryats, Ekhirits, Bulagats]. /Erdei Katalinnal közösen/. 1998 március Fonó Budai Zeneház.

Tofák, tozsuiak, tibák. [Tofas, Tozhas, Tibas]. /Lukács Józseffel és Somfai Kara Dáviddal közösen/. 1999 február Fonó Budai Zeneház.

Burjátok és tofák között [Buryats, Tofas]. /Erdei Katalinnal közösen/. 1999.05.13-05.28. Oroszországi Kulturális Központ

Burjátok, evenkik, tofák /[Buryats, Evenkis. Tofas]. Erdei Katalinnal közösen/. 1999. november 11-február 28. Fővárosi Állat- és növénykert.

Professional talks, papers or posters

Papers presented

Study of Unaccountability. Reindeer, Herders and Jade Trading in East Siberia. *L'art du mensonge / The fine art of lying*. Organised by Laurent Legrain (ULB/FNRS), Université Libre de Bruxelles. Institut de sociologie, Le 21 novembre 2014 (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Experience of the Hungarian Edition of 'Culture Contact in Evenki Land'. *"Anthopology in the Russian Language". A Panel Discussion on the Challenges and Opportunities of Interlingual Translation*. Cambridge Committee for Russian and East European Studies, University of Cambridge. Clare College, 4 February 2014

Jade Road: Infrastructures and Evenki Indigenous Business in East Siberia. Infrastructures of Resource Economy in (sub-)Arctic Russia. *Civic Matter: Infrastructure as Politic*. CRASSH. Centre For Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities. University of Cambridge, 29 January 2014, with Tatiana Safonova

A Thousand Evenki Plateaus. Photographic-analysis. *SARA postdoctoral seminar series*. Department of Social Anthropology. University of Cambridge. 19 November 2013. (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Unaccountability. Indigenous Business Management. *Marie Curie Fellows in Social Sciences at University of Cambridge. Presentation in Festival of Ideas*. McDonald Archeological Institute/University of Cambridge, 27 October 2013.

Culture Contact in Evenki Land// 10th Conference on Hunting and Gathering Societies, Liverpool, United Kingdom, 28 June 2013

Unaccountability among Evenki people in East Russia // 10th Conference on Hunting and Gathering Societies, Liverpool, United Kingdom, 26 June 2013

Evenki Dogs: Aesthetics of Life after Its Death (East Siberia) // CUSAS, Department of Social Anthropology, Cambridge University, United Kingdom, May 2013. (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Paradox of disability among Evenki people in East Siberia. *The Hiccups of Social Life. Emotional Crisis and Variations in the Tone of Daily Sociality* workshop convened by L. Legrain. 1 June 2013. Mongolian and Inner Asia Studies Unit, Department of Social Anthropology. University of Cambridge.

Export of Mineral Resources from Russia Border Regions to China. *Where Rising Powers Meet China and Russia at their North Asian Border. Project Workshop*. Mongolian and Inner Asia Studies Unit, Department of Social Anthropology. University of Cambridge. 7 June 2013. (in collaboration with Safonova, Tatiana)

Unaccountability (film presentation)// Human-environment relations: skills, knowledge, emotions and politics in Siberia and China (Evenk and Even peoples), University of Versailles, Guyancourt, France, 11-13 January 2013

Unaccountability among Evenki of East Siberia // Magic Circle Seminars, Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 6 October 2012. (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Unaccountability as indigenous business management. EASA 2012 Congress, University of Paris Ovest Nanterre La Defense, Paris, France, 11 July 2012

Evenkijskie sekrety: issledovanie kulturnye kontakty v Baikalskom regione. (Evenki Secrets:

Culture Contact in Baikal region). Siberian seminar serial (leded by Prof. Nikolai Vakhtin)

Department of Anthropology, European University, Saint-Petersburg. 11.5.2011 (in Russian)

Hunter-gatherers or peripheric dwellers? Anarchism and Anthropology. Department of Social Anthropology, Cambridge University. 23.09.2010

Being Local Outsiders. Ethos of Chinese People in East Siberia. Arctic Routes workshop. University of Tartu. 25.05.2010

Jirga, spring 2006 (video-film presentation). Cambridge University. Scott Polar Research Institute. 12.05.2010

Pokazuha v Dom Kultury. (Pokazuha – Public Behaviour in a House of Culture in Buryatia.) *Russian Field*. 25 May 2009, CISR Sankt-Peterburg: (in Russian)

Evenki People and Evenki Dogs: A Study of Mutual Socialization // *International workshop “Humans, animals, plants, and things: personhood in contemporary Amazonia and Siberia”*, Museum de Qua Branly, Paris, France, 26-27 June 2008 (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Andaki – the Relationship of Evenki people with strangers. Gender Shift in the Life of Northern Communities in Russia. 3 May 2008 Cezane (Latvia)

Evenki Walking: Secrets, Emotions and Nomadism. Seminar Series of Anthropological Department at Aberdeen University, 13 December, in English, (in collaboration with Tatiana Safonova)

Forgetting as a technique to reach emotional involvement. Workshop on Forgetting to mark and marking to forget - Empty spaces and absent things in Mongol land. 27.11.2008, MIASU, Department of Social Anthropology, Cambridge University with Tatiana Safonova (CISR, St. Petersburg, Russia)

Stories about Evenki People and Their Dogs - Communication through Sharing of Contexts. Magic Circle. 5 October, Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge University, with Tatiana Safonova

Pokazuha in the House of Culture – the Pattern of Behavior in Kurumkan of Eastern Buryatia. House of Culture workshop. Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, 13-15 September 2007 Halle/Saale, Germany, with Tatiana Safonova

The Biography of a Buryat Shaman: Risks as Resources of Reputation for Authority among Hunters. 8th Annual Conference of the European Sociological Association, 5.09.2007, Glasgow (with Tatiana Safonova)

Bear and Big Water as devices of external control for Evenki people in Eastern Buryatia
// Workshop: Reassessing Religion in Siberia and Neighbouring Regions, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale), Germany, 6-8 December 2006 with Tatiana Safonova

“Bright future?”: Knowledges, practices and strategies among the young people in a South Siberian Evenki village. *Generation P in the Tundra*. 8–10 October 2004, Tartuu

Social activities

Membership, ranks

Association of Hunter-gatherer societies

European Association of Social Anthropologist