THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE MONGOLS

CHAPTER ONE

1 The origins of Činggis Qa'an.

At the beginning there was a blue-grey[1] wolf, born with his destiny *ordained* by Heaven Above. His wife was a fallow doe. They came crossing the Tenggis.[2] After they had settled at the source of the Onan River on *Mount* Burqan Qaldun, Batačiqan was born to them.

2 The son of Batačiqan was Tamača; the son of Tamača, Qoričar Mergen; the son of Qoričar Mergen, A'uǰam Boro'ul; the son of A'uǰam Boro'ul, Sali Qača'u; the son of Sali Qača'u, Yeke Nidün; the son of Yeke Nidün, Sem Soči; the son of Sem Soči, Qarču.

3 The son of Qarču, Borǰigidai Mergen, had as wife Mongqolǰin Qo'a. The son of Borǰigidai Mergen, Toroqolǰin Bayan, had a wife *named* Boroqčin Qo'a, a young lad[3] *named* Boroldai Suyalbi, and two fine geldings, Dayir and Boro.[4] Toroqolǰin had two sons, Du'a Soqor and Dobun Mergen.

4 Du'a Soqor had a single eye in the middle of his forehead: with it he could see for a distance of three stages.[5]

5 One day Du'a Soqor went up Burqan Qaldun with his younger brother Dobun Mergen. Du'a Soqor looked out

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[1] See the Commentary.

[2] Lit., 'the Sea' or (fig.) 'a large body of water' such as a great lake, possibly the Baikal.

[3] I.e., a young manservant.

[4] I.e., 'Dusky' and 'Grey.'

[5] A 'stage' (*ne'üri*) is the distance between two nomadic camps.