



Our 2016 all-women team with our male guide and horse wranglers

Nomadicare 2016



Nomadicare supports the sustainability and cultural survival of nomadic peoples by harmonizing traditional and modern medicine and documenting nomadic life ways, lore and heart songs.



Awards for Migration. The blanket is a traditional Estonian tapestry, hand-dyed and handwoven.

Dear Friends,

With your help, I was able to travel once again to Mongolia! The Dukha people greeted us as old friends. As we have since 2004, we gave a year's supply of vitamin C to each of the 250 Dukha reindeer herders and gave each family a hygiene kit. They thank you for caring.

If you remember, I felt drawn to make the movie *Migration* to document the nomadic way of life while it still exists. The production team finished it in January. Nomadicare's goal is to find a distributor to share the life of the Dukhas widely. We began by showing the movie at film festivals and have shown it on three continents!

In April, from the Earth Day Film Festival in San Francisco, we received the top award. While giving this award, the director Allen Meyers said, "I want to recognize that *Migration* is an experiential film that shows a way of life that is in harmony with the planet and needs to be remembered." In July, at the Parnu Film Festival in Estonia, *Migration* was honored with an award for "the best scientific audiovisual recording".

In Mongolia, when Nomadicare screened *Ceremony* in Ulaanbaatar and *Migration* in Tsagaan Nuur, the sum (village) closest to the taiga, I got the sense that Dukhas, who are the smallest ethnic group in Mongolia, are marginalized in the wider community. The audience got to see the full beauty and power of their indigenous lives. Often I begin to understand the purpose for a project after it is completed.

Thanks to a grant from New England Yearly Meeting's Legacy Fund, I am able to travel around New England to show the movies at Quaker Meetings this fall. I will also share what it is like to have a 22-year leading (calling) to care for Mongolia's nomads. I use the process for leadings for all Nomadicare's work.

I want to give special thanks to the Swift Foundation, the Mongol American Cultural Association, and you! If our work resonates with you, please renew your commitment by donating. If you know individuals or foundations in harmony with our mission, please share our stories.

With joy and gratitude for this work,

Sas Carey





Screening *Migration* inside the urts to the extended family of the nomads in the movie



Showing *Migration* to its Stars

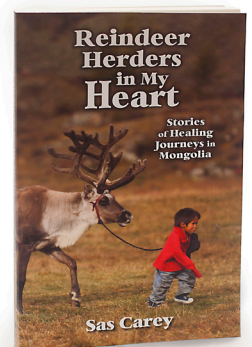
The summer night is light in the taiga. The reindeer are brought in from the pasture at about nine, then the women milk the reindeer and the families eat dinner. On this night, the settlement then gathers to see *Migration* in an urts (Siberian tipi). The family is featured in the film. *Migration* is 80 minutes long. The faces of the parents and children glow from the screen of my small laptop. Basankhuu, who sings in the movie, hands me his red cell phone to place beside the laptop so that he can record the traditional Tuvan music from the sound track.

“I want to learn these songs,” he says. This touches my heart because I know the Dukhas are Tuvan nomads who were migrating in Mongolia when the border closed in the 1940s and they could not return to their homeland. They treasure their

culture, including their indigenous music, but have lost much over the years. Since the music in *Migration* is by the Alash Ensemble from Tuva, this is an opportunity to connect the Dukhas with their own culture.

The movie ends, the herders clap, and Shaman Gala says, “Now let’s see *Ceremony*!” I try to talk them out of it because it is so late, but in the end, I show it. Gala’s father and uncle are, after all, featured shamans in the movie. At the end of the second movie, Gala stands up, leans over the others and shakes my hand, thanking me. When I head back to my urts, it is 12:30 AM and finally dark out.

DVDs and book available at Nomadicare.org.



Impact of Tourism

Anthropologist Jeannie Hatcherson, with funding from the American Center for Mongolian Studies, joined our team this summer. She took paper and markers to help the children describe their lives and in her interactive study found that the impact of tourism on the Dukha reindeer herders was small. Mostly, tourists stay only for a short time during the six-week summer and can help by renting an urts (Siberian tipi), hiring guides, and buying carved reindeer antlers. “I believe a formal system for herders to participate in the tourists’ experiences both socially and economically would improve outcomes for both,” suggests Jeannie.



Dukha child drawing a photo of her life with her home, river, reindeer, and mountains.



**Please
donate to
support
our 2017
projects**

\$50	A year's supply of Vitamin C for 250 herders (<i>need 6</i>)
\$100	Hygiene kit for each Dukha family (<i>need 5</i>)
\$500	Film supplies (hard drive, flash drives, solar panel, battery)
\$1,000	Food and lodging for taiga (<i>20 days X 4 people</i>)
\$1,200	Cameraperson
\$1,500	Horses and wranglers for 4 people
\$2,000	Interpreter (<i>56 days X \$40</i>)
\$5,000	Archivist (<i>part time</i>)

www.nomadicare.org/donate

Tax-deductible contributions of any size are greatly appreciated. You may send a check made out to: Nomadicare or click on the Donate button to use Paypal through our website.

We are looking for an Executive Director for our next film. To discuss this and other opportunities to have your name in the credits, please call privately to discuss this.



Scrimshaw depicting the life in a reindeer herder settlement carved on a reindeer antler by Dukha reindeer herders in the Mongolian taiga.





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Khandaa



*Khandaa and her son Battumur,
in the taiga in 2007.*

To discover the next project for Nomadicare, I search for what is needed, not what I think will be easy, or what I have the means to do. When I start, I have a fuzzy view of a book or movie relating to transition, Mongolia, a woman, shamanism. The Quaker process for discovering a leading begins with listening, dreaming, and asking in meditation. I know the message can come from anywhere and that it will resonate in my heart. Who ever thought an answer would come from Facebook?

I got a Friend request from Khandaa (pronounced Honda), a dear Dukha friend. Ten years ago I stayed in her urts in the West Taiga. She did all the hard work of a nomad. There was no cell phone or Facebook in her life. When Khandaa married some years ago, she moved to Mongolia's capital city. Every summer, though, she packs up her family and once again becomes a nomad who herds reindeer. This transition will be the story of the next film, exploring the challenges and joys she faces both on the inside and outside as she shifts from one life to the other.

Please visit our updated website designed by New Media: www.nomadicare.org