

## **Lubsan Sandam Tsydenov, Ilja Dandaron and the Abbot of Kumbum**

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The highest development period for Buryatian Buddhism was from the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century until the 1930s.

By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Transbaikalia Buddhism which had been a part of the Tibetan-Mongolian Buddhist world since the 17<sup>th</sup> century, experienced very different conditions compared to other Tibetan Buddhist countries.

The development of capitalist relations in Russia influenced also the government policy towards its national minorities, and the period itself demanded strong and extraordinary personalities to advance ahead including those from within the religious circles.

My presentation starts from Kumbum and continues via Buryatia to contemporary St-Petersburg; includes Lubsan Sandam Tsydenov and his unusual views and principles; Ilja Dandaron and Vladimir Montlevitsh.

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