

2020: Instability year ? Since January, there is one word on everyone's lips: Covid-19. This scourge that affects the whole world leaves worried, preoccupied and unanswered Batsukh and Tserenkhagai. They live currently on their winter/spring camp named Adjn Khudag. In this stretch of sand and pebbles. They perpetuate the Mongolian traditional way of life: entensing breeding. They cherish «the immensity» of the surrounding area « from where all the animals are visible ». This existences rhymes « with freedom ». This loved work « whitout being its slave ». Leaving this place would mean what they call « the depression of their saoul ».

At the moment, uncertainty reigns. The first question is usual: « What is new in the province center ? » The second one is of another category: « What is the cashmere price ? » The plummeting price of the kings wool makes herders dubious. The law of the international market responds to the supply and demand theory. In this land, the sale of cashmere represents 80% of herders' annual salary. How to school children, feed animals, avoid household overindebtedness... without this financial contribution ?

However, a gleam in the eyes, they carry on with their daily life. Feed the young goats, lead the herd, comb the goats...in their khashaa, populated by their elders and their respective families, life goes. While Tserenkhagai's silence is marble, Batsukh drops a last sentence full of nostalgia: « in the days of the collective farms, all animal products were sold: fermented camel milk, meat, wool... today it's not the case.»

Faced with the difficulties encountered, their zest for life and their resilience pushes to respect.

- Kings wool price. Bogd sum. Bayankhongor aimag. 2020 -