

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 Tserenkhantai. 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: extensive breeding. They cherish «the immensity» of the surrounding area « from where all the animals are visible ». This existence rhymes « with freedom ». This loved work « without being its slave ». Leaving this place would mean what they call « the depression of their soul ». 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 collapse in the price of the king's 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 the herder's annual salary. How to school children, feed the animals, avoid household over-indebtedness... 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 Tserenkhantai'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 -