

# *Preface*

Sixth International Conference on the Medieval History of the Eurasian  
Steppe  
Szeged, November 23–25, 2016

The Departments of Altaic Studies and Medieval History together with the MTA–SZTE Turkological Research Group at the University of Szeged organized the Sixth International Conference on Medieval History of the Eurasian Steppe in Szeged in November 23–25, 2016. The Medieval Nomads evolved from the conferences on the history of medieval nomads of the Eurasian steppe held in 1997, 2000 and 2002 at the University of Szeged. These early conferences were the forum for the Hungarian historians and orientalists and the proceedings were published in Hungarian. In 2004 it was decided to convene an International Conference on Medieval History of the Eurasian Steppe. The first conference of this kind was held in Szeged in 2004, the second in Jászberény in 2007, the third in Miskolc in 2009 (Hungary), the fourth in Cairo in 2011 (Egypt), and the fifth in Moscow in 2013. The proceedings have been published in *Acta Orientalia* (58: 2005), *Chronica* (7–8: 2007–8), *Chronica* (11:2011), *Bjulleten'* (Newsletter) *Obshchestva vostokovedov*. Vyp. 21. Moscow 2014. The preliminary program of the conference included 38 lectures and the participants came from China, Germany, Spain, Bulgaria, Rumania, Japan, Russia, Turkey besides the Hungarian experts. On 24 November 2016 started the first working day at 9 o'clock. Zoltán Vajda, the vice-dean of the Faculty of Arts greeted the participants and opened the conference István Zimonyi, the head of the Department of Altaic Studies and the Department of Medieval History made preliminary remarks on the study of present stage of nomadic peoples of Eurasian steppe in Hungary. Then the lectures were read till 6 pm. On 25 November the conference continued with lectures in parallel sections. The majority of presentations followed by lively debate. In the evening there was a reception for the participants.

I express special thank to my colleagues from University of Szeged, Szilvia Kovács and Márton Vér for their organizing work before and during the conference. As for the publication I asked the head of the Historical Institute at the Faculty of Arts, Richard Szántó to include the proceedings in *Chronica*, the *Annual of the Historical Institute*, which he kindly accepted. I thank to Balázs Danka who made extraordinary efforts for the editorial work.

István Zimonyi