Dogmatism, lack of historical thinking and utilization of duplicating methods were three characteristics of Mongolian historical schooling for a long period. However, in the late 1980s and early 1990s new approaches were introduced, and attention was focused on the dissociating of issues from politics and ideologies, and on looking at the problems objectively. The main factor that influenced this shift was a rejection of the Marxist approach and free access to archival materials.