

LIST OF FACT-CHECKS							
No	TITLE	DATE CHECKED	DATE PUBLISHED	VERDICT	BRIEF EXPLANATION	FACEBOOK LINK	WEB LINK
1	Claims that going near a flame after putting on hand sanitizer is FALSE	2020.03.29	2020.04.01	FALSE	This was a claim about a person who used a hand sanitizer and burnt her hand. The claim said that because the hand sanitizer has alcohol in its content it is flammable. When we checked the photo, it was from a person who had a hand and arm skin transplant surgery. The claim has already been checked by various fact-checking initiatives.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/142014550779812	mfcc.mn/covid-post-1.html
2	Claims regarding traffic regulation based on number plates are MISLEADING	2020.04.17	2020.04.18	MISLEADING	In order to decrease traffic during COVID-19 quarantine, authorities said they were exploring possibilities to enforce car plate number bans. Websites reported as the decision was already made and ready to be enforced. But it had only been a discussion and wasn't finalized.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/126967308951203	mfcc.mn/blog-post-1.html
4	The number of protesters claimed to have participated in the rally is FALSE	2020.04.12	2020.04.13	FALSE	As an educational content, we used a recent rally against the leading party at the Sukhbaatar square as an example and used mapchecking.com . Exaggerating the crowd size during a rally or protest is a common method used by politicians to lift the importance of their cause. Therefore it is important for news consumers to be able to fact-check themselves using online tools. And the fact-check also helped raise awareness that such incidents take place.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/124274085887192	
5	Claims that consumer loans will be frozen are FALSE	2020.04.19	2020.04.20	FALSE	At the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak, the authorities decided to postpone all payments regarding mortgage loans including interest rate. Websites and social media consumers reported on it saying that the authorities postponed payments on all types of loans, including consumer loans. Based on official documents of the decisions made by officials who hold the authority to make such decisions, we made it clear that the decision does not cover consumer loans or all other loans except mortgage.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/128568035457797	mfcc.mn/covid-post-2.html
7	Claims that Kim Jong Un is dead are FALSE	2020.04.24	2020.04.24	FALSE	We fact-checked claims that North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un had died using google image search. We used a topic that was viral and used an online tool in an effort to attract more people to the educational content showing how google image search can easily be used to identify the origins of photos or images.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/130211745293426	mfcc.mn/blog-post-4.html
8	Claims that a child dies due to hunger are FALSE	2020.04.25	2020.04.27	FALSE	There was an incident an 11 month old child died. Media reported that the child died of hunger, as initial reports said "there was no food to be found in the stomach of the deceased". We did not contact the parents of the child out of caution it might hurt them even more after all the reports that said "parents who can't even feed their children shouldn't even have a child." After the fact-check has started the General Police Authority made a press conference that said "the reason for death was not hunger". In order to confirm the announcement, we contacted the Health department of the khoroo (smallest municipal unit), the incident happened and discovered the reason of death was identified as stomach illness. We also contacted medical experts to ask about how common such cases are among children of that age, and confirmed, although not very common, it can happen.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/131518445162756	mfcc.mn/covid-post-4.html
9	Claims that Care reaction will be activated by sharing and lik-ing pages are FALSE	2020.05.01	2020.05.01	FALSE	After Facebook introduced the care reaction during Covid-19, many pages and groups were created that claimed to hold a special permission granted by Facebook to activate the reaction on people's accounts. Those pages and groups asked people to share and like the pages/groups and comment on the posts. We used official sources from Facebook and posts from their employees to debunk the falsehood.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/133357921645475	mfcc.mn/blog-post-5.html
10	Instruction to activate World emoji are FALSE	2020.04.29	2020.05.01	FALSE	After Facebook launched the care reaction during Covid-19, some pages and groups claiming that World emoji was also created occurred, asking people to like, share the pages/groups and comment on the post to activate the World emoji. We used official sources from Facebook and google image search to debunk the claims.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/133369914977609	mfcc.mn/blog-post-6.html
11	Claims that the state will not allow farewell in case a person dies of Covid are FALSE	2020.05.14	2020.05.15	FALSE	During a daily news conference by the Ministry of Health and other organisations that are helping tackle the situation in relation to the coronavirus in Mongolia, Head of the National Center for Zoonotic Disease said that "if a person dies of the coronavirus, there's a regulation to not let the family do farewell with the person. It is regulated by the order number 153 of the Minister of Health". Therefore we checked the order of the minister and similar regulations by the WHO approved in March 2020, which said the opposite, "that a farewell is allowed with proper measures and regulations".	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/139482604366340	mfcc.mn/covid-post-5.html
12	Claims under the name of Suun zam resort are FALSE	2020.05.25	2020.05.26	FALSE	We used Google image search to debunk a clickbait which used photos from Cikole Orchid Forest resort in Indonesia and name of another legally registered entity in Mongolia under the name Suun Zam. The fact-check was not paid by any organisation.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/143864507261483	mfcc.mn/blog-post-7.html
13	Claims that 430 thousand elderly people get pension are FALSE	2020.06.01	2020.06.02	FALSE	About 422-430 thousand people are getting elderly pension in Mongolia, reported major websites including ikon.mn and news.mn, which were further used as a source by other smaller websites. We used official statistical data released by the General Authority of Social Insurance to take out the actual number which is 322.9 thousand.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/143881673926433	mfcc.mn/blog-post-8.html
14	Claims that the 30 thousand sheep donated by Mongolia has reached Yanjing district are FALSE	2020.06.02	2020.06.03	FALSE	Mongolian authorities gifted 30 thousand sheep as a gift to China after it was hit by the Covid-19. But there were claims that the sheep had reached Yanjing district in China. The claim was viral in China and Mongolia. But we used Google image search to identify that the video was not taken in China, but in Huesca, Spain. To confirm the finding, we used the two keywords that were clear to us, Huesca and the boldest figure in the video, letters NLK writer on a building. We found out that it is a building of Newlink Education in Huesca, Spain, confirming the previous finding.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/168948966086370	mfcc.mn/blog-post-9.html
15	Claims that people won cell phones or cash from an account that appears to be Google are FALSE	2020.06.10	2020.06.11	FALSE	A user sent us a series of screenshots taken on his device saying that he won a cell phone from Google and asked us to verify the authenticity of the information. We checked the claim and with the help of the General Police Authority's department against Cyber Crime and by investigating similar incidents that happened to other users and identified that the claims contained many traits of phishing in it.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/149922476655686	mfcc.mn/blog-post-10.html

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16	Announcements on Alibaba online shopping website claiming to sell land in Mongolia contain FALSE information	2020.06.28	2020.06.29	FALSE	There were a number of announcements on Alibaba saying that land in Mongolia is on sale. As Alibaba.com is an open platform where users can add their announcements, we decided to call each person about their announcements. All of them had no idea that their contact information would be on the platform and had no idea about the announcement. Therefore, although it is true that the announcement was published, the information that is on the announcement are not true. This could be political because there is a movement against a recent amendment in the constitution about the sale of land.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/157216092592991	mfcc.mn/blog-post-11.html
17	Claims that Kanye West's family visited Mongolia are FALSE	2020.06.29	2020.06.30	FALSE	We used the viral case claiming that Kanye West and Kim Kardashian visited Mongolia "proven" by a photo of their family at a tourist attraction in Mongolia to show social media users how photos can be easily checked using Google image search.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/156595719321695	mfcc.mn/blog-post-12.html
18	Unofficial translation of the claim that the FATF agreed to take Mongolia out of the Grey List is MISLEADING	2020.07.01	2020.07.02	MISLEADING	An unofficial translation of an official statement by FATF was posted on Mongolia's Central Bank's website claiming that the FATF has reached a conclusion to take Mongolia out of its watch list. We compared the unofficial translation with the official statement and decided that unofficial translation wrongly stated that the FATF decided to take Mongolia out.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/157227112591889	mfcc.mn/blog-post-13.html
19	Claims that the coronavirus is destroyed by rinsing the mouth with various liquids are MISLEADING	2020.08.12	2020.08.13	MISLEADING	An official from the Ministry of Health has claimed that rinsing your mouth with certain liquids destroys the coronavirus, citing a research made by German scientists. We searched the research using keywords mentioned in her statement and found the research named "Virucidal efficacy of Different Oral Rinses Against Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2" published on The Journal of Infectious Diseases, on July 29th. It did state that certain mouth rinses had an effect to decrease the viral load of the coronavirus, but none of them destroyed the coronavirus and the study was only made on a chosen set of 8 commercially available solutions, not all types of liquid including water with lemon as the official stated.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/171163464531587	mfcc.mn/blog-post-14.html
20	Elon Musk DID NOT tweet about Ikh Khuraldai Complex	2020.08.10	2020.08.13	FALSE	There was a photo which made it appear as if Elon Musk tweeted about a complex that is being constructed in Mongolia in comparison to his SpaceX missile, in a tone that may be interpreted as if he is minimizing the complex. Although the tone of the post where the viral activity on social media started had a definite tone of humor, implying that the photo is doctored and the incident is not real, it seemed to be believed by people who shared it. Therefore, in an educational fact-check, we examined the photo, firstly using tweetbeaver, and by examining the contents in the photo.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/170963561218244	mfcc.mn/blog-post-15.html
21	Article named "China will integrate Mongolia to it by 2045" is MISLEADING	2020.08.01	2020.08.15	MISLEADING	We fact-checked an article that was mostly a personal opinion piece, with the help of Taiwan Fact-Checking Center. The article named, "6 main wars that China will start in the next 50 years" was first published on www.xtlu.com in 2010, 10 years before the date of fact-check. The article was reposted to Mongolian on Oct. 13th 2015, under the title, "China will conquer Mongolia in 2045". Firstly, the article was misleading as it made a decade old article like a recent incident, it made an opinion piece look like a fact and also, there were misinterpretations which made expectations look like a decision that is bound to be implemented.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/174791970835403	mfcc.mn/blog-post-16.html
22	Claims that the Chinese Foreign minister Wang Yi declined the milk offered by a Mongolian woman are FALSE	2020.09.12	2020.09.18	FALSE	Chinese premier Wang Yi visited Mongolia in September 2020. After his visit there were claims that he declined to accept the cup of milk that a Mongolian woman offered him on his arrival. We examined the photo and discovered that it was a photo from his visit to Mongolia in 2018, and we confirmed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia that a cup of aaruul, not milk was offered to him during his visit of 2018.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/181252570189343	mfcc.mn/blog-post-17.html
23	Claim that delegates of US military force visited Mongolia ahead of Chinese FM Wang Yi's visit and agreed to set ballistic missiles in the country is FALSE	2020.09.18	2020.09.18	FALSE	There were claims that "Mongolia and the US finalised an agreement to set ballistic missiles in Mongolia ahead of Chinese Premier Wang Yi's visit to Mongolia". Firstly, we checked the picture used with the claim and found out that this was taken during a signing of Airman-to-Airman deal between the US and Mongolia in 2018. And further investigation has showed that similar claims have been made in 2019 that was also denied by officials.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/181389953508938	mfcc.mn/blog-post-18.html
24	Videos and images that show 30,000 sheep on the way to China are MISLEADING	2020.09.30	2020.10.02	MISLEADING	Mongolia announced to donate 30 thousand sheep to China in an effort to help relieve the country from Covid shock. A video claiming to show the 30 thousand sheep on their way was published. But the video was initially published before Mongolia even announced the donation. As AFP had already checked the fact, we gathered the accurate informations on the claim and compared them with online hoaxes.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/188970539417546	mfcc.mn/blog-post-19.html
25	Claims saying Mongolia has lost COVID-19 in a community transmission are FALSE	2020.10.21	2020.10.22	FALSE	There were claims that Mongolia lost the coronavirus in a community transmission, as proven by an inspection in Huhhot, Inner Mongolia from a person who came there from Mongolia. We used both traditional methods and technological solutions to check the facts. Initially we contacted the Ministry of Health who said they know nothing about the claim. We used flightradar to confirm the flight's route and found out that the flight did originate in Ulaanbaatar, but travelled to Moscow before going to Inner Mongolia where the cases were confirmed. Knowing that the flight had been to Russia prior to Huhhot led us to traditional sources including the Mongolian Civil Aviation Authority and MIAT Mongolian Airlines. We were able to ask them the right questions and, they said that the flight initially travelled to Moscow to load Chinese citizens who were trapped in Russia due to lockdowns and brought them to Beijing with a stop at Huhhot for inspections. The 5 people who tested positive for the Covid were Chinese nationals.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/191632242484709	mfcc.mn/covid-post-6.html
26	Claims that Russia's vaccine experiment has stopped are FALSE	2020.10.31	2020.11.03	FALSE	A story claiming that "Russia's vaccine production has stopped after the story about Putin's daughter's death" circulated in Mongolian media two months after the story was initially published on international websites. We used information that had already been fact-checked by international fact-checkers to debunk the story.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/195124438802156	mfcc.mn/covid-post-7.html
27	Claims that Jo Biden said he will curb China's coal consumption are TRUE, but claims that he said he will stop Mongolia's sale to China are FALSE	2020.11.03	2020.11.04	TRUE, FALSE	In the drive up to the US election, claims saying that "Democratic party candidate Jo Biden said that if he is chosen as president, he will work to curb China's import of coal from Mongolia". Although he did say during a democratic party debate that "China is importing the dirtiest coal on the world" and "they are importing it from Mongolia", he did not specifically say that he will target and curb China's coal import from Mongolia.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/195410425440224	mfcc.mn/blog-post-20.html

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28	"Mongolia's secret to beat COVID-19" video which was seen 3.6 million times in 5 days around the world is MISLEADING	2020.11.05	2020.11.09	MISLEADING	NAS Daily published a video content on how Mongolia beat the Covid-19. The content had certain pieces where Mongolia's culture and history was misinterpreted. Most importantly, it stated that Mongolians may have a better immune system because of the type of food Mongolians consume. We used peer reviewed studies that say otherwise to debunk the claim and contacted NAS Daily about the issue. They responded openly and agreed to post a correction in the comment section.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/196909448623655	mfcc.mn/covid-post-8.html
29	Advise on COVID-19, distributed with speaker of parliament, G.Zandanshatar's name is MISLEADING	2020.11.11	2020.11.12	MISLEADING	After Mongolia reported its first case of community transmission of the coronavirus, a poster explaining how people should proceed to prevent from the coronavirus. But it listed a series of actions that the WHO had already announced as Coronavirus myths. We contacted the speaker's department and inquired about the incident after posting a fact-check done by us and the speaker's office responded and took down the inaccurate information.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/197663898548210	mfcc.mn/covid-post-9.html
30	Claims that the authorities banned travel in personal cars are FALSE	2020.11.12	2020.11.13	FALSE	Due to the outbreak of the coronavirus, the flow of information have been rather chaotic and even with official announcements in place the public were confused about what regulations were actually in place. After the first community transmission of the coronavirus were reported, Mongolian Fact Checking Center adjusted its editorial policy to support the spread of official information after we check the facts. Therefore we used official announcements and contacted official organisations to confirm that the regulation is not to ban travel in personal cars.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/197975771850356	mfcc.mn/covid-post-10.html
31	Claims that citizens from the countryside who are quarantined in the capital will be sent back home of November 18th are FALSE	2020.11.15	2020.11.16	FALSE	A parliament member said publicly that travellers from the countryside who were quarantined in the capital city will be able to travel back starting from November 18th, 2 days after the claim was made. We contacted a number of official sources to debunk the claim.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/198767211771212	http://mfcc.mn/covid-post-11.html
32	Claims that chinese citizens were allowed to enter Khovd province are FALSE, Claims that people who travelled from Ulaanbaatar to countryside secretly were detained are TRUE	2020.11.15	2020.11.16	TRUE, FALSE	10 people from Khovd province who were stuck in Ulaanbaatar under quarantine travelled illegally to Khovd province claiming that they were carrying food, which was allowed. They were detained. A facebook user said that Chinese citizens were allowed to enter Khovd province. Using information on official sources, we debunked the claim that Chinese citizens entered the country and confirmed the claim that Mongolian nationals who illegally travelled to the countryside were detained.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/198769705104296	http://mfcc.mn/covid-post-12.html
33	Claims that the president has confided the prime minister to implement a program to give away a financial assistance of 1 million MNT for every household are MISLEADING	2020.11.17	2020.11.17	MISLEADING	The President's department announced that he conided to the Prime minister to give away 1 million MNT for all households in an effort to relieve families of the coronavirus pressure. The information initiated from the official website of the President and spread to the most trusted websites including kon.mn . But according to the constitution of Mongolia, the president does not have the right to confide to the prime minister, he can only suggest. As the choice of word in the claim was understood that it has been confided and is bound to be implemented, we consulted with a number of respected lawyers who we chose based on the topics they discussed openly on social media and their background to see if they have certain political backing on the legal issues and announced the claim as misleading.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/199082811739652	http://mfcc.mn/covid-post-13.html
34	Claims that soldiers who were training at the Tavantolgoi mine site in Umnugobi province are FALSE	2020.11.19	2020.11.20	FALSE	A German news website reported that one of the German soldiers who were on drill in Mongolia tested positive for the coronavirus. We contacted with the German embassy, the Ministry of Defense and the hotline where the soldier was staying in order to debunk the claims that the soldier was tested positive for the covid and correct the location that the soldiers were on drill.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/200977958216804	http://mfcc.mn/covid-post-14.html
35	Claims that there's no coronavirus in the air because it's cold are MISLEADING	2020.11.20	2020.11.24	MISLEADING	An official from the Ministry of Health has claimed that "there is no coronavirus in the air now because it's cold" repeatedly during public announcements. We used various reports published in peer reviewed journals including The Lancet she mentioned to debunk the claim.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/203985064582760	http://mfcc.mn/covid-post-15.html
36	Claims showing WHO's guide saying that social distancing and quarantine is unnecessary during Covid are FALSE	2020.11.25	2020.11.26	FALSE	A public figure announced on her Facebook page that "social distancing and quarantine are unnecessary" citing the WHO. We fact-checked the claim and published it as well as reporting it to be removed from Facebook.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/206206954360571	http://mfcc.mn/covid-post-16.html
37	Claims that workers who disrespected Maradona's body were killed are FALSE	2020.11.29	2020.12.01	FALSE	Claims that funeral workers who had taken a selfie with the body of the legendary football player Maradona were beaten up and put in garbage bin where 2 of them died and one was in hospital under critical condition. We checked the video that accompanied the claim and found out it was from a different incident that happened in March, 2020. We also clarified from various sources that those people were fired and were under police protection at the time of fact-checking.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/209034330744500	mfcc.mn/blog-post-21.html
38	Claims that German scientists discovered liquids that destroy the coronavirus are FALSE	2020.11.20	2020.12.02	FALSE	A research made on different liquid's quality to decrease the virucidal load was misinterpreted to state that chokeberry juice was found to stop the spread of coronavirus in a human body. We used the original copy of the research and a number of researches published on peer reviewed health journals to debunk the claim.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/209951030652830	http://mfcc.mn/covid-post-17.html
39	Claims that new type of clean coal affected to increase the content of nitric dioxide and sulphur dioxide in the air are #TRUE	2020.12.08	2020.12.14	TRUE	Mongolia introduced a new type of clean coal for consumption in Ulaanbaatar or heating purposes in 2019. Officials are claiming that the coal has benefitted greatly to decrease the concentration of hazardous gas in the atmosphere since introduction. But the head of the third force, National Labour Party, Naidalaa Badrakh, posted on his official Facebook page and Twitter profile that the new fuel actually increased hazardous gas such as sulphur dioxide and nitric dioxide in the air. After inspection, we found that the main claim of the post were true by looking at official air quality data, comparing them with that of previous years, month by month and talking to an expert.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/223017039346229	http://mfcc.mn/blog-post-22.html
40	Claim that new coronavirus claims decreased constabtly during lockdown in New Zealand is #FALSE	2020.12.15	2020.12.15	FALSE	An advisor to the Prime minister of Mongolia posted on his Facebook page that new cases of coronavirus constantly decreased during the lockdown in New Zealand. We looked at official data from the WHO to conclude that the number of cases did decrease in the mid term, but did not decrease constantly. As people are carefully monitoring the number of new cases of the Covid in Mongolia, we believe mis-interpreting best global experiences will only loosen the public's trust in official measures. Therefore, we decided to post our findings.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/220266869621246	http://mfcc.mn/blog-post-23.html
41	Photo showing an apartment block entrance welded to not be opened is #TRUE	2020.12.28	2020.12.30	TRUE	After a coronavirus case was reported in Amgalan town in Bayanzurkh district, a photo showing that the building's entrance was welded unable to open. The reason for the welding was immediately narrated by social media users that officials closed off the entrance to make it impossible for the residents to leave the building. But it faced a lot of scrutiny from the public as violation of human right. The officials tried to change the rhetoric and say that the "door's lock was broken, therefore they welded a piece of iron to put a manual lock through and took it away afterwards. They did not have any intention to close off the building." We initially inspected the photo with Forensically to conclude that the photo is original and hasn't been altered. Then we showed professional welders what's remaining, and all the replies we got said that there's no sign of having welded a piece of iron onto the surface and removing it. Therefore, we concluded that the door was initially welded for the purpose of making it un-openable so that no one from the building where a coronavirus case was reported will be able to leave.	https://www.facebook.com/MongolianFactCheckingCenter/posts/228655728782360	http://mfcc.mn/blog-post-24.html