

CATHAY PACIFIC



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
School of Humanities · The University of Hong Kong

Organized by the Department of History,  
The University of Hong Kong

# 11<sup>th</sup> SPRING HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

2 - 3 May 2019

4.34 and 4.36 Run Run Shaw Tower  
Centennial Campus, HKU

The Symposium has been supported by the  
Graduate Students Conference/Seminar Grants  
of the Research Grants Council, Hong Kong



Faculty of Arts  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

SCHOOL of  
HUMANITIES  
faculty of arts

HISTORY  
ENDOWMENT  
FUND



# CONTENTS

---

## Spring History Symposium

### Programme Schedule

### Keynote Speaker

### Panels and Presentations

Session 1: Hong Kong.	Thursday, 02 May, 0940-1100
Session 2A: China.	Thursday, 02 May, 1120-1240
Session 2B: Architectures and Heritage.	Thursday, 02 May, 1120-1240
Session 3A: Law and Society.	Thursday, 02 May, 1400-1520
Session 3B: Gender.	Thursday, 02 May, 1400-1520
Session 4A: Localities and Borderlands.	Thursday, 02 May, 1540-1700
Session 4B: Material Culture.	Thursday, 02 May, 1540-1700
Session 5A: Religious Missions and Movements.	Friday, 03 May, 0940-1100
Session 5B: Disease, Medicine, and Health.	Friday, 03 May, 0940-1100
Session 6A: Education and Language.	Friday, 03 May, 1120-1240
Session 6B: Global History.	Friday, 03 May, 1120-1240

### Additional Information

### Venue Map

### Organizing Committee 2019

# SPRING HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

---

The Department of History of The University of Hong Kong is proud to welcome you to the 11<sup>th</sup> Spring History Symposium. We are extremely pleased to have participants from different continents and diverse backgrounds coming to Asia's global city --- Hong Kong.

The Asia-Pacific region continues to become a vital area for historical inquiry. Its most pressing issues are essentially transnational, interdisciplinary, and historically-rooted. The Department of History at The University of Hong Kong, as one of the most dynamic and innovative centres of historical teaching and research in Asia, recognizes these issues by cultivating research and knowledge exchange among its students. Activities like the Spring History Symposium aim to give postgraduate students the platform to communicate their research, reflect on, and refine their ideas through history.

Established in 2008, the Spring History Symposium initially served as a gathering for postgraduate students of history and cognate disciplines from Hong Kong and Macau to present their research in a professional manner. Soon, postgraduate students from all across the globe have attended and presented their work. With the generous support of the Graduate Students Conference/Seminar Grants of the Research Grants Council, Hong Kong, and from the History Endowment Fund, the Symposium has grown to become an anticipated annual event for postgraduate student research.

While emphasizing history as the core discipline and method of inquiry, the Symposium invites research from other disciplines such as international relations, geography, economics, anthropology, architecture, medicine, environmental science, and the humanities to reflect on critical issues affecting the region.

This year, we are extremely pleased to have twice the number of postgraduate students presenting on an array of issues and geographical contexts. These papers strongly resonate the region's contemporary issues such as political regimes, human rights, rapid urbanization, contagious infectious diseases, gender relations, migration, regional security, and sustainable development.

We very much look forward to meet you and listen to your research, and we hope to see you in the future activities and events of the Department of History at HKU.

Joyce Lau, Dongkue Lee, Nicolo Ludovice, Reynold Tsang, Jackie Wang, Shuang Wu, and Tim Yung  
On behalf of the 11<sup>th</sup> Spring History Symposium



# PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

---

## THURSDAY, 02 MAY 2019

---

- 9.00-9.30      **Registration**
- 9.30-9.40      **Opening Remarks (Room 4.36)**  
Prof. John Carroll  
*Postgraduate Coordinator*  
*Department of History, HKU*
- 9.40-11.00    **Plenary Session: *Hong Kong***  
Room 4.36
- 11.00          **Break**
- 11.20-12.40   **Session 2**  
                  **2A. *China*** (Room 4.36)  
  
                  **2B. *Architectures and Heritage*** (Room 4.34)
- 12.40          **Lunch**
- 14.00-15.20   **Session 3**  
                  **3A. *Law and Society*** (Room 4.36)  
  
                  **3B. *Gender*** (Room 4.34)
- 15.20          **Break**
- 15.40-17.20   **Session 4**  
                  **4A. *Localities and Borderlands*** (Room 4.36)  
  
                  **4B. *Material Culture*** (Room 4.34)

## FRIDAY, 03 MAY 2019

---

- 9.20-9.40      **Registration**
- 9.40-11.00    **Session 5**  
                  **5A. Religious Missions and Movements** (Room 4.36)  
  
                  **5B. Disease, Medicine, and Health** (Room 4.34)
- 11.00          **Break**
- 11.20-12.40   **Session 6**  
                  **6A. Education and Language** (Room 4.36)  
  
                  **6B. Global History** (Room 4.34)
- 12.40          **Lunch**
- 14.00-15.20   **Keynote Address (Room 4.36)**  
                  Dr. Rachel Leow  
                  *Faculty of History, University of Cambridge*
- 15.40          **Closing Remarks**  
                  Prof. David Pomfret  
                  *Department of History*  
                  *Head, School of Humanities*

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

# DR. RACHEL LEOW

---



Rachel Leow is a University Lecturer in Modern East Asian History at the Faculty of History at Cambridge University, and a fellow of Murray Edwards College. Born and educated in Malaysia, she subsequently completed a BA in History at Warwick University, and an MPhil and PhD in History at St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge. She was also a recipient of a postdoctoral Prize Fellowship in Economics, Politics and History at Harvard University. Her first book, *Taming Babel: Language in the Making of Malaysia*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2016, and received the Association for Asian Studies' Harry J. Benda Prize in Southeast Asian Studies in 2018. Research published and forthcoming includes studies of Chinese female bondservitude in interwar Malaya and Hong Kong, Southeast Asian participation in Chinese peace movements in the early Cold War, and transnational May Fourth-era networks in Chinese newspapers in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. Her present work continues to explore aspects of Chinese migration to Southeast Asia.



# KEYNOTE LECTURE

# DIASPORIC REGIONALISM AND THE CONSOLATIONS OF HISTORY

---

This keynote explores alternatives to formalized, institutional and political conception of regions, by way of microhistory. Like Hong Kong itself, the historical phenomenon of Southeast Asian Chinese migration is balanced at the productive edges of two constructed regions -- that of 'East' and 'Southeast' Asia. This keynote presses alternatives to institutional conceptions of regions that privilege national, economic and geopolitical scaffolding at the expense of almost complete abstraction from the lived experiences of regionality. Through an inversion of scale and the layering of microhistories, it explores instead the possibilities of 'diasporic regionalism', challenging us to ask what happens to regions when we think of diasporas --- their routes and practices of movement, their intimate imaginaries, fears and expectations, and most of all their limits --- rather than nations, states or economies, as their principal authors. In doing so, it hopes to recover consolations from history for our age of rising, hardening borders.

PLENARY SESSION

1

HONG KONG

02 May, Thursday

09.40-11.00

Room 4.36

**Allan PANG**

MODERATOR

---

**“What Type of Museum does Government desire?”**

**The Orientation of Government Museums in Late Colonial Hong Kong**

*Reynold TSANG*

**Charles Boxer in Hong Kong 1904-2000**

*PAN Zhengzheng*

**Engaging with the West: Chinese White-Collar Class and Western Suits in Post-War Hong Kong in the 1950s and 1960s**

*Katon LEE*

**Kowtowing Sinophile? Sir Percy Cradock and the Future of Hong Kong**

*Adonis LI*

---

# “What type of museum does Government desire?": The Orientation of Government Museums in Late Colonial Hong Kong

Reynold TSANG

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

After a twenty-year absence of museums in Hong Kong, the colonial government finally agreed to re-establish a public museum in the city in the early 1950s. The Urban Council, which took charge of its planning and management, soon faced a big question – “What type of museum does Government desire?” In other words, what should the museum collect and exhibit? This paper will examine the orientation of governmental public museums in Hong Kong during the 1960s and 1980s and reveal the policies and considerations behind. My discussion will focus on the City Hall Museum and Art Gallery and its two successors, the Hong Kong Museum of History and the Hong Kong Museum of Art. In this paper, I argue that governmental public museums in late colonial Hong Kong embraced a local orientation in general. This direction began as a coincidence without much deliberation. Nevertheless, after the 1966 and 1967 riots, the colonial government and the Urban Council reinforced the local theme to foster a unique historical and cultural identity of Hong Kong people.

1

## Charles Boxer (1904-2000) in Hong Kong

PAN Zhengzheng

*History, University of Macau*

Though some historians charged that the British intelligence-gathering unit ---- the Far East Combined Bureau (FECB) were ineffective especially during the attack on Pearl Harbor, several experienced people expressed complete satisfaction with the information that the FECB provided. This article focuses on the work and network of the outstanding British historian Charles Boxer (1904-2000) who was assigned as an intelligence officer of the FECB in Hong Kong from 1937 to 1939. Checking out several unknown archives of Boxer would reveal how FECB tried to get Japanese military information and fulfilled its function as an outstation of the British Government Code and Cypher School (BGCC) to crack codes and provide Britain with vital intelligence.

# Engaging with the West: Chinese Commoners and Western Suits in Post-war Hong Kong (1950s-1960s)

Katon LEE

*History, University of Bristol*

While western suits were not an affordable product for Chinese commoners in Hong Kong throughout the first half of the twentieth century, they assimilated into Chinese clothing culture bit by bit after the Second World War. Newspapers and magazines on men's fashion suggested that some Chinese men, particularly the better-off, began to change their fashion sense and westernise their appearance in the 1950s. They were adorned in suits to present themselves as honourable gentlemen of the upper class when attending formal occasions. However, when more ordinary Chinese were hired as white collars in western companies during the industrialisation of the city, suits were no longer a formal costume which the men would wear in official functions in the 1960s. Historical photographs from corporate archives showed that their male Chinese employees were casually garbed in suits as a working uniform at the offices. To such white collars, suits did not function as a 'dress code' of the upper class, but merely an occupational uniform. Such contrasting representations of suits in the 1950s and the 1960s intrigued me to study the historical meanings of wearing suits to the ordinary Chinese in post-war Hong Kong. This presentation, as a part of my thesis, will examine the 'suit engagement' of Chinese commoners in Hong Kong from the 1950s to the 1960s, aiming to answer why and how the cultural symbols of suit-wearing transformed in relation to the economic shift of the city. It argues that the dissemination of suit culture among the commoners not only represented the close relationships between industrialisation of the colony and 'social democratisation of commodities', but also signified the cultural penetration of western corporates, particularly the British ones, into everyday clothing of the ordinary Chinese in post-war Hong Kong.

1

# Kowtowing Sinophile? Sir Percy Cradock and the Future of Hong Kong

Adonis LI

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

My paper is about Sir Percy Cradock, former British Ambassador to China, first chief British negotiator, and keen critic of British policy after his retirement. I use the newly available Percy Cradock papers at Cambridge to reveal personal dimensions and show how his China-based training did not fully prepare him to anticipate challenges in Hong Kong. I also show that his personal desire for a legacy meant that he lashed out publicly at the colonial administration during his retirement. I conclude that his sinologist training was in fact a hindrance when dealing with people of Hong Kong, linking high diplomacy to the social impact. I also draw out points regarding the use of memoirs, personal papers and other sources in addition to official archival material.

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

## Reynold TSANG

### *History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Reynold Tsang is an MPhil student in the Department of History at the University of Hong Kong. Tsang's current research looks at the development of museums in colonial Hong Kong. He is interested in a wide range of historical topics, including Hong Kong History, Museum History, Modern Chinese History, Colonialism and Imperialism in East and South-east Asia.

## PAN Zhengzheng

### *History, University of Macau*

- She is final year PhD student at University of Macau, major in History and now doing thesis as the role of historians' on historical writings about China, especially by the English-speaking historians who lived in China during WWII, and she is interested in any fields of cross-cultural exchange between China and other countries, Chinese opera oversea propagation and Modern British History, and also about the data science, data in the humanities.

## Katon LEE

### *History, University of Bristol*

- Katon Lee is now pursuing his PhD in History at the University of Bristol, United Kingdom. He is interested in the history of Hong Kong and China's port cities, with a particular focus on culture and gender. His current project is about cultural engagement of Chinese communities with western clothing during the colonial era of Hong Kong.

## Adonis LI

### *History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Adonis Li is a first-year PhD student in History at the University of Hong Kong. He is a graduate of the University of York. His PhD project looks at the history of the Kowloon-Canton Railway in Hong Kong, looking at the political, social and technological development of the railway.

SESSION 2

2A

CHINA

02 May, Thursday

11.20-12.40

Room 4.36

**Xingjian YAN**

MODERATOR

---

**Post-war Reconstruction of Society after the Ming-Qing War in the Early Years of the Qing Dynasty**

*LIU Shaohang*

**A Study on the Distribution of Enterprises Moving to Chongqing During the Anti-Japanese War**

*YAO Ni*

**Governing the Dead in Maoist China: Tombs-Evacuation Movement of Hangzhou 1955-1976**

*ZHENG Yushuang*

---

# Post-war Reconstruction of Society after the Ming-Qing War in the Early Years of the Qing Dynasty

LIU Shaohang

*Institute of Qing Dynasty, School of History, Renmin University of China*

Disasters, natural or man-made, became commonplace, often with attendant casualties on an enormous scale. A common view is that war is an aberration from the political and social norm, and therefore should not be taken too seriously. This in turn means that neither the effects of war nor the postwar reconstruction are the major topics of history research. When Ming-Qing war is being discussed, viewpoints are limited. Ming-Qing war, caused incredible devastation and chaos to China. To some extent, the Ming-Qing war is an important turning point in the process of the seventeenth century general crisis on the global scale and has long-term impacts on society. China also faced the Manchus that swept down from the north, which forced China's change of dynasties. In this period, China had experienced most radical social change. The postwar reconstruction does not only mean recuperation, but also provides new motivation and opportunity for the self-transforming and development of China. Examining the relationship between the war and society, and exploring the process of postwar reconstruction provide an excellent example for us to understand the formation of Kang-Qian Flourishing Age and the transformation of Chinese society as an ecological phenomenon. We could also understand how Qing Dynasty responded to the environmental change in the process of the seventeenth century general crisis. This article focus on the social, economic and environmental change in post-warreconstruction after Ming-Qing war from 1644 to 1735. The results show that Qing Dynasty turned China from "warfare state" to "welfare state", completed postwar reconstruction and the transformation under turbulent social environment. Hence, Qing Dynasty got political legitimacy.

2A

## A Study on the Distribution of Enterprises Moving to Chongqing During the Anti-Japanese War

YAO Ni

*History, University of Macau*

During the period of the Anti-Japanese War, in order to preserve the strength of industry and support the national resistance, national enterprises continued to move westward, and about half of them moved to the war-time capital Chongqing. Along with the continuous immigration of enterprises, a narrow and long-distance relocation area along the four banks of the two rivers has been gradually formed in the urban area of Chongqing. Within the city, according to geographical barriers, historical development, and regional differences in location conditions, Chongqing's urban areas can be divided into six major regions. Within the city, according to the geographical barrier, historical development and location conditions, the Chongqing city can be divided into six major areas. The distribution of these areas is generally based on electricity supply, with traffic as the leading factor and terrain as the limit. Besides, air defense was taken into consideration, land price and industrial agglomeration were also important location factors. However, after in-depth study, the characteristics and causes of their distribution are slightly different.

The distribution of the enterprises in Chongqing not only played a supportive role in the war, but also played an important role in the geographical distribution of Chongqing during the period of the war. The inward-moving enterprises furthered the development of Chongqing, meanwhile they expanded further to the rear regions.

# Governing the Dead in Maoist China: Tombs-Evacuation Movement of Hangzhou 1955-1976

ZHENG Yushuang

*Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

In 1964, Hu Qiaomu, a member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, wrote a poem during his holidays in Hangzhou proposing the evacuation of tombs near West Lake, saying “Half of West Lake has been contaminated by the soiled idols that cheat the mountains and the evil human bones that endanger the water. Who shall with me wave the swords to sweep away such ridiculousness?”. His proposal soon attracted the attention from Chairman Mao Zedong, who later launched a tombs-evacuation movement in Hangzhou, aiming to wipe off the “ghost neighbors” in and outside the city. It is believed that such movement was once started by Mao during his stay in Hangzhou in 1955. This paper focuses on the relation between death and the state. By inquiry into the detailed process of the tombs-evacuation movement in Hangzhou in Maoist China, this paper attempts to study how the socialist state attempted to govern the dead. By close examination of governmental archives and documentations, the paper represents the power struggle during the movement. How the power struggle in the central state affected the local society? On the other hand, how the local movement has served as an arena for power struggle? In other words, what roles did “death” play in a living political movement? Moreover, despite its political meaning, the tombs-evacuation movement was also a social movement in which the socialist state tended to manipulate the meaning of death and redesign the urban space. How did the meaning of death change during the period of socialist transformation? And how did the dead restructure the urban space? Besides, to what extent did such changes indicate a particular type of modernity that provides an alternative understanding to the so-called “death modernity” in western context? The paper attempts to answer this set of questions.

2A



# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

LIU Shaohang

*Institute of Qing Dynasty, School of History, Renmin University of China*

- He comes from Institute of Qing Dynasty, Renmin University of China. His research
- interests are social history and economic history. His current research is about
- reconstruction of Ming-Qing War in the early years of the Qing Dynasty.

YAO Ni

*History, University of Macau*

- This a postgraduate student from history department University of Macau whose
- current research is mainly about the tribute relation between Southeast Asian
- countries and Qing China. Besides, he is also interested in issues like social history of
- Modern China and historical memory or history education.

ZHENG Yushuang

*Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

- Yushuang Zheng is currently a Ph.D student in Anthropology Department at
- the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her research interests include urban-rural
- relations and state governing in Republican China and PRC. Before coming to CUHK,
- she received her master's degree in the Department of East Asian Languages and
- Cultures at Columbia University, and her bachelor's degree in history at Nankai
- University.

2A

SESSION 2

2B

## ARCHITECTURES AND HERITAGE

02 May, Thursday

11.20-12.40

Room 4.34

**Jack GREATREX**

MODERATOR

---

**Architecture and Urban Space in Japan's Former Colonial Cities: A Comparative Study of Taipei and Changchun**

*CHEN Zuoyi*

**The Emergence of Heritage Discourse and its Practice in Manila, Philippines**

*Claudia Isabelle Violeta MONTERO*

**Performing Thai-ness: Golden Mile Complex in Postcolonial Singapore**

*CHAN Ying-kit*

---

# Architecture and Urban Space in Japan's Former Colonial Cities: A Comparative Study of Taipei and Changchun

CHEN Zuoyi

*The Center for Japanese Studies, Nanzan University*

Japan began its territorial expansion on the continents of other Asian nations in the first half of the twentieth century. Among the occupied territories, Taipei and Changchun were regarded as two of the most important frontier territories and received considerable investment from Japanese colonial empire. These two cities were designed by Japan with anti-Western pan-Asian sentiment and were expected to be the “experiment yard” of Japanese “new imperialism” in Asia. This paper aims to offer a historical research on Japanese visions and practices of Taipei and Changchun. How were the cities imaged and built? What were the architectural processes? How the Japanese constructed modern space in these two cities, moreover, what are the differences between the Japanese “modern” forms of Changchun and Taipei? By exploring the above questions, this study wishes to offer a new insight on the relationship between modernism and colonialism.

2B

## The Emergence of Heritage Discourse and its Practice in Manila, Philippines

Claudia Isabelle Violeta MONTERO

*History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

Beginning in the late 1960s the Philippines, thus, is a latecomer and a neophyte in terms of heritage conservation practice. While the understanding of its necessity was in the mindset of Filipino legislators since the aftermath of World War II, they instead dealt with what was imperative during that time—to first uplift the social condition of the country, build an economy, and stabilize the newly independent state. Following these administrative directives and the restructuring of the government, a premature phase of heritage consciousness commenced in the Philippines through (post-war) reconstruction projects as an immediate response for the lack of infrastructures to use by the new administration. Furthermore, the resurgence of “heritage” in the Philippines emerged over issues arising from the destruction and demolition of architectural legacies and historic remainders in the country, predominantly in its capital city, Manila. Manila as a heritage site, is a repository of collective memories embodying artistic, economic, political, and religious meanings sedimented over time. The city's changing meanings, form, and appearance reflect the last four and a half centuries of urbanisation brought about by different cultures through many years of colonization and past 1946, self-administration. This study seeks to examine the transitions and changing nature of heritage considering Manila's “national effect”—the city in the past, and still today, continues to influence the larger extent of the heritage discourse and its management. It aims to present the making of the built layers that later could be construed as “heritage” and what RA 10066 is—as a legal protector of the built past. Fundamentally, this paper deals with the question: why is there a need to protect built heritage in Manila? Moreover, why should it be an important facet of governance?

# Performing Thai-ness: Golden Mile Complex in Postcolonial Singapore

CHAN Ying-kit

*East Asian Studies, Princeton University*

Completed in 1973, Golden Mile Complex is one of Singapore's first shopping malls. Built as part of the Singaporean government's plan to expand and redevelop the urban center, the complex houses both commercial and residential units. According to architectural historians, the complex's iconic terraced design makes it a "mega-structure" and "vertical city," characterized by its diverse and high-density functions. Serving also as a transportation hub from which coaches and tour buses depart for Malaysia and Thailand, Golden Mile Complex hosts numerous Thai eateries, shops, and remittance centers and has become the "Little Thailand" of Singapore. This paper traces the history of the complex and suggests how consumption habits and urban renewal have shaped its functions. By analyzing Singaporeans' perception of the complex, the paper also examines why, despite the rise in their discretionary income and hence their increased appreciation of Thailand through gastronomy and travel, Singaporeans have come to view the complex as a "vertical slum" frequented by the Thai migrant workers whom they disdain. As proprietors of the complex seek to preserve or even exaggerate the authenticity of their goods and services by becoming "more Thai than Thailand," "Thai-ness" becomes commodified for consumption by both Singaporeans and Thais. The complex is thus a microcosm of Singapore that highlights the contradictions between development and diversity.

2B

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CHEN Zuoyi

*The Center for Japanese Studies, Nanzan University*

My name is Zuoyi Chen. I received my Master's degree in Asian Studies from the University of Oslo. My research efforts focus on the architectural and urban history of former Japanese-occupied areas, northeast China in particular. Now, I belong to Nanzan University. I am studying Japanese language and culture here as a student.

Claudia Isabelle Violeta MONTERO

*History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

Claudia Isabelle Montero is an MPhil student, studying History at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She holds a Master's Degree in Architecture with specialization in Architectural Heritage Conservation from the University of the Philippines Diliman and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila. Her research interests include heritage conservation practice, heritage law, cultural heritage studies and urban history. As a licensed architect and a conservator of built heritage with applied experience in research documentation and condition assessment, Claudia advocates the preservation and conservation of historic resources in the Philippines.

CHAN Ying-kit

*East Asian Studies, Princeton University*

Ying-kit Chan is a doctoral candidate in the Department of East Asian Studies, Princeton University. He serves as the editorial assistant for *Nan Nü: Men, Women, and Gender in Early and Imperial China*. A student of late imperial China, he has published several papers on Qing China as well as on postcolonial Singapore and is researching the anxieties of Guangdong intellectuals about the possible partition of their province at the turn of the twentieth century. His latest articles have appeared in *Frontiers of History in China*, *International Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of Chinese History*, and *Monumenta Serica*.

2B

SESSION 3

---

**3A**

**LAW AND SOCIETY**

---

02 May, Thursday

14.00-15.20

Room 4.36

---

**Nicolo LUDOVICE**

MODERATOR

---

**A Transnational Study of Wan Guo Gong Fa in China and Japan**

*Xingjian YAN*

**Conversion to Modernity: A Study of the Yang Naiwu Murder Case in the Diary of Li Ciming**

*YANG Jiao*

**The Reintroduction of Immigration Control in Hong Kong in 1974**

*Senia TONG*

---

# A Transnational Study of Wan Guo Gong Fa in China and Japan

Xingjian YAN

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

Wan Guo Gong Fa, which was translated by W.A.P Martin, a Presbyterian missionary from the United States, is the Chinese version of The Elements of International Law, written by Henry Wheaton in 1836. It was the first time that a systematic international law had been introduced to China and affected China's foreign affairs. In 1865, this book was brought to Japan and caused a profound impact on the early Meiji Period. In the 1880s, Martin's translation was also published in Korea and caused a great impact on the intellectuals there. The previous scholarships of studying Wan Guo Gong Fa are rich, in Europe, the United States, China, Japan and Korea. However, the existing literatures related to it are mainly focused on its influences on history of ideas, intellectual history, translation history and legal history and the interactions between the evaluation and practice of it in China and Japan have been overlooked by most historians. This essay analyzes Wan Guo Gong Fa's impacts on China and Japan in a transnational perspective.

3A

## Conversion to Modernity: A Study of the Yang Naiwu Murder Case in the Diary of Li Ciming

JIAO Yang

*History, University of Macau*

Why is it that private diaries become significant historical materials, whereas others—especially, official archives—are no longer the most reliable documents in historical research? One could posit an explanation that historical studies were confronted with different tracks, which commoners' history was separable from elitist history in the research. Thus was produced the difference in the use of historical materials. Here I want to show that how to use a private diary to learn about the history of the late Qing dynasty, and at the same time, I want to explore that how an empire has lost itself in the process of conversion to modernity. In this essay, I focus on a private diary written by Li Ciming (a common official in the late Qing period), and through a well-known trial called "Yang Naiwu murder case", I want to argue that stagnant consciousness of the people is key to understanding the transmutation of the Qing dynasty in the late nineteenth century. These stagnant consciousnesses not only hampered the modern knowledge leaking into the Qing dynasty but maintained the backwardness of the Qing government in interaction with Western imperialism as well.

# The Reintroduction of Immigration Control in Hong Kong in 1974

Senia TONG

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

With the outbreak of the Cultural Revolution in China, Hong Kong's immigration control was interrupted. All immigrants, with or without permit, who reached Hong Kong territory were accepted. In 1974, the government imposed the touch base policy to control illegal immigration from the mainland after negotiations with China. It was not a new policy but had been the practice of the Hong Kong government during the Great Leap Forward in 1962 till 1967. Under the touch base policy, like in a baseball game, immigrants aimed to reach 'base' (south of Boundary Street, i.e. urban areas) safely without being called 'out' (caught at entry). Those who reached the urban areas would be allowed to stay while those who were arrested would be returned to China. As an immigration control measure, the policy contradicted itself. It did not deter illegal immigration. Unlawful immigrants were still given hope to gain residence if they managed to escape the police's gaze. As such, the policy also had an encouraging effect to a certain extent. This gives rise to the question: why did the Hong Kong government propose such policy in 1974? This paper suggests that neither the Hong Kong side nor the Chinese side put their prime focus on illegal immigration in their negotiations. Instead, the touch base policy was intended to be a sweetener for China to reduce legal immigration.

3A



# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Xingjian YAN

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Yan Xingjian, a first year PhD student from The University of Hong Kong, Department of History. He is currently working on a research subject about W.A.P Martin's
- translation of Elements of International Law, especially the interactions between the
- evaluation and practice of it in China and Japan.

JIAO Yang

*History, University of Macau*

- JIAO Yang, a Ph. D. candidate in the department of history, University of Macau. The
- current research interests of JIAO Yang focus on popular religious activities and the
- social change in rural north China from the late Qing dynasty to the Republic, using
- historical archives and social investigations at that time.

Senia TONG

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Senia Tong is an MPhil student at the University of Hong Kong, where she earned her
- BA in History and Geography. Specialising in Hong Kong history, Senia is interested in
- border control, colonial administration, decolonisation and identity issue. Her current
- research concerns with illegal immigration from China to Hong Kong in the 1970s.

3A

SESSION 3

---

**3B**

**GENDER**

---

02 May, Thursday

14.00-15.20

Room 4.34

---

**Tim YUNG**  
MODERATOR

---

**'Wasn't she some pirate's mother?' Women and Chinese Piracy in the Mid-Nineteenth Century**  
*Nathan KWAN*

**Reading the History of Mui Tsai with Gendered Methodologies: Challenges and Possibilities**  
*Kylie LUI Chiu Yee*

**Banking on Women: Tracing the Shanghai Women's Commercial & Savings Bank**  
*Jackie WANG*

---

# 'Wasn't she some pirate's mother?' Women and Chinese Piracy in the Mid-Nineteenth Century

Nathan KWAN

*History and War Studies, The University of Hong Kong and King's College London*

The nature of Chinese piracy, particularly among the Dan or boat people who often engaged in it as a family enterprise, made it different from Atlantic piracy. Whereas Atlantic piracy was largely a masculine activity, various accounts of Chinese piracy comment on the participation of women. However, there has been little discussion of the role of women in Chinese piracy. The only female Chinese pirate who has been studied in any depth is Zheng Yisao, who was active in the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. The first Opium War (1839-1842) and the disruption it caused to the China coast brought about a surge in piracy on the China coast which prompted international efforts for suppression. These pirates came from the same groups who crewed Zheng Yisao's fleets but have received much less attention despite the plethora of sources discussing their activities. Notably, many European accounts of piracy in this period comment on the participation of women in piratical activities while Qing legal documents record the punishment of women for piracy.

This paper seeks to provide a cursory investigation of women and Chinese piracy in the mid-nineteenth century from both European and Chinese sources. It will utilize John C. Appleby's framework in *Women in English Piracy, 1540-1720: Partners and Victims of Crime* (2013) to discuss the relationship between Chinese women and piracy, showing how Chinese women were confederates and accessories, as well as victims, of piracy. However, the distinct nature of Chinese piracy meant Chinese women were much more often directly involved in piracy than their Western counterparts, allowing for further analysis and discussion. This paper will also hope to comment on the intersections of race, gender, and empire in European discussions of and reactions to Chinese women pirates.

3B

## Reading the History of Mui Tsai with Gendered Methodologies: Challenges and Possibilities

Kylie LUI Chiu Yee

*Centre for Gender Studies, University of Cambridge*

The history of Mui tsai was an important concern for colonial governments in the early 20th century. The impossibility to define Mui tsai presents itself a very complicated social system. Ideally, Mui tsai resembles various female identities in Chinese societies, from adopted daughters to bonded servants to concubines, while these various identities are by no means mutually exclusive. To British feminist activists, the Mui tsai system was condemned as an ancient-old Chinese vice that enslaved and oppressed the female sex. This complexity leads colonial officials, activists and scholars into debates about whether the Mui tsai system constitutes child adoption, human trafficking or slavery. The Mui tsai problem is essentially perceived as a structural oppression on Chinese women by many feminist scholars, whose works discuss the issue from feminist vantage point. This has however posed the danger of leaving out other historical concerns. With such a complexed historical issue in mind, this paper discusses the challenges and limitations of using gendered methodology to study the history of Mui tsai. I argue that the employment of gendered methodology risks leaving out important concerns including colonial discourse, poverty, race, multi-ethnicity and the other vulnerable in the discussion. This paper also explores how the adoption of an intersectional approach can overcome these above challenges and allows us to critically reconsider the ground to view the Mui tsai problem as a 'Chinese oppression on women'.

# Banking on Women: Tracing the Shanghai Women's Commercial & Savings Bank

Jackie WANG

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

This paper details the formation of the Shanghai Women's Commercial and Savings Bank (1924-1955) and its subsequent development as a women's enterprise. It examines the organization's capital structure as well as its board and personnel composition. Staffed and financed by women, the bank catered to women young and old who cashed their paychecks and stored their jewellery there as a means for financial independence. Although this women's bank had limited capital and a small business scope, it reflected the endeavours of women at a time when Chinese women's roles were evolving. The bank stood out in its longevity, operating from 1924 to 1955. Historical scholarship on Republican-era commercial Shanghai focuses heavily on women as cultural consumers of goods and services. In fact, women were also the producers and drivers of economic goods and services. This paper uncovers the legacy of prominent women like Yan Shuhe and Zhang Youyi in managing the bank and the complex behind-the-scenes network culminating in the bank's development to suggest that the bank became a space for the 'modern' women who moved into new arenas outside the home. Moreover, it adds a gendered dimension to the narrative of commercial Shanghai to reflect the contributions of enterprising women to the financial field.

3B

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Nathan KWAN

*History and War Studies, The University of Hong Kong and King's College London*

- Nathan is in his final year of a PhD programme between the University of Hong Kong
- (Department of History) and King's College London (Department of War Studies). His
- current thesis investigates Sino-British cooperation in the suppression of piracy in
- South China in the mid- to late-nineteenth century. It assesses the implications for
- such activities on the development of international and maritime law in the region.

Kylie LUI Chiu Yee

*Centre for Gender Studies, University of Cambridge*

- Kylie is an MPhil student at Centre for Gender Studies, University of Cambridge.
- She does research in cultural history and representation. Her academic interest is in
- gender historical and cultural studies. Her upcoming project is about the history of
- Anorexia awareness and popular culture in a transpacific context.

Jackie WANG

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Jackie Wang is a PhD candidate in History at HKU. Her research interest includes
- gender and business history, specifically looking at Chinese women in business in
- modern China.

3B

SESSION 4

4A

## LOCALITIES AND BORDERLANDS

02 May, Thursday

15.40-17.00

Room 4.36

**Dongkue LEE**

MODERATOR

---

**Inviting the State into the Locality: The Founding of Xin'an County in 1573**

*Travis SHUTZ*

**The Origin, Evolution and Legacy of Orientalist Historiography on Balochistan**

*Jahanzeb KHAN*

**Chinese Intervention in French Kuang-Tchéou-Wan 1921-1923**

*WU Ziqi*

**The Seas Around Borneo in History: Littoral Politics and Hinterland Resistance**

*David SAUNDERS*

---

# Inviting the State into the Locality: The Founding of Xin'an County in 1573

Travis SHUTZ

*History, The State University of New York at Binghamton*

Recently, anthropologist James C. Scott (2009) and historian Michael Szonyi (2017) have examined strategies through which individuals and groups in Late Imperial South China engaged with the Chinese state. They respectively revealed that while some individuals and groups fled from the state's expanding presence, others exploited their position within it for personal profit. In the Pearl River Delta, the residents of Nantou, however, adopted a different strategy in the mid-sixteenth century. When confronted with the maritime marauding of the Wokou Crisis (ca. 1523-1580), the Nantou gentry appealed to the state to protect local interests. Rather than request the Ming military conduct anti-piracy campaigns (a temporary intrusion of the state into the locality), influential individuals proposed the founding of a county (a permanent expansion of state presence). While contrasting Scott's findings in upland Southeast Asia, the move also simultaneously mirrored and differed from the Fujianese experience that Szonyi analyzed. Exploring the relationship between local society and the centralized state, I examine the history surrounding the founding and early development of Xin'an county. The paper considers questions such as: how deeply had the Wokou Crisis impacted Nantou; rather than locally organize self-defense, why did the Nantou gentry turn to the state for protection; how was the construction of the Xin'an administration funded; and from where did its military and bureaucratic personnel come? The case study provides a local history of state-society relations during a time of complex change in South China.

4A

# The Origin, Evolution and Legacy of Orientalist Historiography on Balochistan

Jahanzeb KHAN

*Area Study Center for Middle East and Arab World, University of Balochistan*

Orientalism is a postcolonial and post-modernist discourse developed by Edward Said in his famous book *Orientalism*. It's a critique of the European perspective about the creation of colonial discourse and this approach advocates that European colonialism has created a concept of "we and they". In these concepts we or Occident is European culture, history, institutions and all other aspects of life while they or Orient is the Non-European culture, history and institutions. This perception of Orient and Occident is a pure European construct and it would see other world from the lens of Europe and give a verdict of being inferior about all those concepts, cultures and ideologies which are not in conformity with European perceptions. The present work is based on the colonial construction of history of Balochistan and colonial scholars had provided the landmark of historiography in Balochistan. These colonial scholars had derived their concepts of the cultures and histories of the local people on the basis of the official documents provided by the colonial masters. So the primary premise of the colonial discourse was not to do academic research rather it was to control the local people. This premise of colonial historiography was bequeathed after partition as the post-partition and indigenous scholars had followed the footsteps of colonial scholars especial in the theories of ethnic origins. The present work is historiographical critique of colonial and post-independence historiography into Balochistan and it has been endeavored to provide main themes of oriental historiography and its counter narrative which based on a post-colonial perspective derived from primary and secondary sources. The paper is an attempt in opening up of new debates in the historiography of peripheral regions like Balochistan and its an effort to shed light on the areas on which there is a historical silence.

# Chinese Intervention in French Kouang-Tchéou-Wan 1921-1923

WU Ziqi

*History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

Southwest Guangdong was in turmoil following French occupation of Kouang-Tchéou-Wan in 1898. Countless bandits, armed men and revolutionaries blatantly crossed the boundaries of this French leased territory. Thousands of bandits took Kouang-Tchéou-Wan as their shelter. Black market for smuggling was tolerated by the French administration for their feeble force and “neutrality” among Chinese rivalling factions. However, policies adjusted as the external and internal environment changed significantly since the late 1910s. When Sun Yet-Sen and his comrades including Chen Jiongming, the Commander in Chief of Cantonese Army came to power again in Guangzhou in 1920, they tried to expand their influences in as much as possible grounds. To restore order, the serious banditry in the Leizhou Peninsula provided their excuse of the intervention in this lease territory and negotiation with the French government. Meanwhile, Albert Sarraut introduced a series of political, economic and educational reforms to French colonies which emphasize the “collaboration” with local society especially the ingenious elites. Kouang-Tchéou-Wan became an encountering hub between colonial administration and Chinese government where tensions were rising. In November 1921, Chen Jiongming sent his trusted fellow Gaston Huang Qiang to lead army to the Leizhou Peninsula under the name of “suppressing banditry”. It is evident that they were ambitious to control the southwest Guangdong by collaborating with the French administration and powerful local figures in Kouang-Tchéou-Wan. Chan Hoc Tam, an opium smuggler, recruited a small private force and was eager to convert himself to be officially recognized. With Chan’s active assistance, the Cantonese army successfully captured their targets in 1922. Served as a local agent, Chan Hoc Tam absorbed political resources from both French and Chinese sides and then he was involved in subsequent conflicts.

4A

## The Seas Around Borneo in History: Littoral Politics and Hinterland Resistance

David SAUNDERS

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

The seas around Borneo were at the core of Southeast Asian history. Today they retain prominence as sites of contestation, with disputes raging over fishing, oil, territorial and navigational rights. In the past, these waters facilitated empires and their fundaments. Trade, migration, and the spread of ideas and belief systems each offered fluid and organic connections to far-flung regions and archipelagos. Borneo’s forested and mountainous hinterland, in contrast, was never as globally contested as its surrounding coastline. As a result, its perimeter—Borneo’s littoral—served to juxtapose different worlds: connecting the global with the local; the pesisir [coast] with the hutan [forest]. The seas granted life, wealth and power. To some minds, however, they were also dark and nefarious. With the onset of Western colonial incursion in the late nineteenth century, new conceptions of danger and illegality were thrust upon the South China, Sulu and Celebes Seas. They were cemented in the Western consciousness as hotspots for piracy, smuggling and shipwreck. Such notions mirrored age-old perceptions of Borneo’s so-called ‘interior’, where since the earliest days of Western contact, reports of cannibalistic ‘head-hunters’ and predatory animals contributed to tropes of disorder and incivility. These perceptions left enduring marks, shaping attitudes towards governance throughout the entire colonial period. This presentation turns to the story of Borneo’s littoral zone: an area typically ignored in existing literature and overshadowed by an age-old fixation on the hinterland. It argues that foreign regimes in Borneo were predicated on control over the coasts and the seas around it, whilst also being a space where they were confined to.



# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Travis SHUTZ

*History, The State University of New York at Binghamton*

- As a fourth-year PhD candidate at the State University of New York at Binghamton, Travis
- Shutz currently holds a Confucius Institute Joint Research Ph.D. Fellowship at Fudan
- University. His dissertation, "Raising Tigers Courts Disaster: The Impact of the Sixteenth
- Century Wokou Crisis on Zhangzhou and Chaozhou" examines how state and non-state
- violence impacted the Fujian-Guangdong borderland. Mr. Shutz's research primarily
- seeks to answer two questions: first, can maritime peoples operate beyond the reach
- of the state, and second, how does the state attempt to reassert control over subjects
- engaged in illicit maritime affairs.

Jahanzeb KHAN

*Area Study Center for Middle East and Arab World, University of Balochistan*

- I am Jahanzeb Khan, Assistant Professor at Area Study Center, University of
- Balochistan. I am interested in post-colonial studies on frontier regions of South Asia.

WU Ziqi

*History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

- WU Ziqi (Bowman) is an M.Phil student at the Department of History in The Chinese
- University of Hong Kong. He was born in Zhanjiang, the former French leased
- territory Kouang-Tchéou-Wan. His current research focuses on extensive negotiation
- and collaboration between French colonial governance and the local society (also
- Chinese government on occasion) in Kouang-Tchéou-Wan during the 1920s. He
- stresses the importance of understanding French colonial history by case studies
- from world history perspective of modern China as well as East Asia.

David SAUNDERS

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- David Saunders is a PhD candidate at the Department of History, HKU, researching
- colonial rule in British North Borneo and its transition towards merger with Malaysia
- in the early 1960s. He is interested in geopolitics, anti-colonialism, decolonisation
- as well as histories of the environment and the relationship between the coast and
- the hinterland in Southeast Asia. He has previously studied at HKU and St. Andrews
- University where he focused on modern and Southeast Asian history.

4A

SESSION 4

4B

MATERIAL CULTURE

02 May, Thursday

15.40-17.20

Room 4.34

**Hayley KEON**

MODERATOR

**Revealing Secrets: Talismanic Healing and Print Culture in Late Qing and Republican China**

*Luis Fernando BERNARDI JUNQUEIRA*

**Cathay or China? A study of William Alexander's Watercolours and Prints of Late Qing**

**Dynasty**

*ZHU Wenqi*

**The Global Construction of the Concept of 'Lingnan Culture' in the Twentieth Century: Chao Shao-oan's (1905-1998) Art, its Replications, and Receptions**

*Janet WONG Yuet Hang*

**Philanthropy, Products and Patriotism: The Advertisements of Lim Peng Siang and Tan Kah Kee in Late Colonial Singapore 1920-1941**

*Jeremy GOH*

**Okinawan Pottery in the Twentieth Century: Japan's Glances of Exoticism and Development in Style**

*Mio TOMIYORI*

# Revealing Secrets: Talismanic Healing and Print Culture in Late Qing and Republican China

Luis Fernando BERNARDI JUNQUEIRA

*Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong*

From the Sui to the Qing dynasties (581-1644), talismans formed an imperially-sponsored medical discipline, after which they were permanently forsaken by the court. However, despite subsequent condemnation by institutions and certain elites, talismanic healing continued to enjoy enormous popularity throughout Chinese society until the first half of the twentieth century. This can be attested, for example, by the unprecedented wave of cheap almanacs and manuals of talismanic healing produced in China between the 1870s and 1940s. Created by the combination of Chinese characters and symbols, talismans are written on paper, body parts, or particular objects for both healing and apotropaic purposes. To be effective, talismans should be written in proper fashion by qualified individuals and accompanied by spoken spells and secret incantations. It should be noted, however, that talismanic healing was traditionally considered a secret art transmitted through master-disciple relationships, divine inspiration, or the study of esoteric manuscripts. Within the context of China's search for modernity, I will examine the impact that these printed texts had on the everyday practice of talismanic healers in Republican China, as they made secret knowledge public. Analyzing these printed texts as textual knowledge, material artifacts, and social practice, I will investigate their context of production, their relationship with manuscript culture, and how their advent changed the learning, practice, and transmission of talismanic healing knowledge in twentieth-century China. In sum, my presentation is driven by three main questions: 1. What were the causes and impact of the sudden mass production of almanacs, printed handbooks, and cheap manuals of talismanic healing in late nineteenth- and mid-twentieth century China? What happens with the living quality and efficacy of a talisman when it is printed? How does a print culture approach to talismanic texts help us better understand the healthcare market of Republican China?

4B

## Cathay or China? A study of William Alexander's Watercolours and Prints of Late Qing Dynasty

ZHU Wenqi

*Fine Arts, The University of Hong Kong*

The Macartney Embassy of 1793 is the first official diplomacy sent from Britain to China that forever changed the cross-cultural interactions between the two nations. Prior to this event, Jesuit missionaries and Dutch traders were the main source of information on China, but they were limited, personal, and overtly fictionalized. Cathay, the exotic, sumptuous, and mysterious version of China, captured the European imagination in the early-modern period. With the rise of maritime power and international trade in the eighteenth century, Britain saw the need for an objective and systematic understanding of China and all aspects of its society. Among the embassy's members were an army of botanists, geographers, physicists, astronomers, craftsmen, and draughtsman, who collected, described, recorded, and classified new information on late Qing China. Upon their return to London, they published a large volume of textual and visual records, laying the foundation for a new school of British sinology that gradually shifted the European attitudes towards China from admiration to contempt in the lead up to the First Opium War. This thesis focuses on the production and circulation of *The Costume of China*, which was published by the embassy's official draughtsman, William Alexander in 1805. Featuring 48 colored aquatints with explanatory text, it illustrated Chinese landscape, architecture, flower and fauna, costume, custom, religion and ritual, as well as ordinary people in various occupations. While accepting that these images are based on first-hand observation and scientific discourses, I argue that they equally conform to the visual and ideological topos of a Eurocentric worldview. Through absorbing the graphic traditions of costume books, street cries, and ethnographic art in the context of travel, they imposed new assumptions about physiognomy, race, and social hierarchy emerged out of Enlightenment philosophy. I also argue that these images underwent a complex process of addition, subtraction, and transformation by comparing Alexander's original drawings to the finished prints, and by evaluating the changes that took place during publication in the context of Georgian London's print industry and book trade. Ultimately, I show the British Empire's mechanism of forging and articulating knowledge of foreign cultures during its global expansion.

## The Global Construction of the Concept of 'Lingnan Culture' in the Twentieth Century: Chao Shao-oan's (1905-1998) Art, its Replications, and Receptions

Janet WONG Yuet Hang

*History of Art and Archaeology, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London*

The presentation is about the "Lingnan School of Painting". Initiated by three Guangdong artists in the early 20th century, it advocated a reformation of Chinese ink painting by an integration of western painting techniques. After 1949, it moved its base to Hong Kong, and has been very well developed by the artist Chao Shao-an (1905-1998) and his large number of students, who have been active within and beyond the region, especially in the US, Canada, Taiwan, and South-East Asia. While many exhibition catalogues have provided detailed accounts of Chao's life and his painting techniques, this research re-examines his art from a broader cultural-historical perspective, with attention to two particular issues. First, echoing an increasing discussion about the relationship between localization and globalization, the researcher looks into the various ways in which the artist represents the concept of "Lingnan" in relation to other regional and national cultures, by examining his paintings and exhibitions over time and space. Replications by his students and re-representations of his art in many recent publications and exhibitions will also be studied to explore how a "Lingnan" cultural identity has been constructed towards the end of the century. Second, in order to construct the relation between Chao's art with its larger contexts, the paper will analyse the role of his art in the transformation of the concept of "Lingnan" in the century, along with other "local" art forms (e.g. Cantonese opera), and the extent to which politics has contributed to the formation of this cultural concept. In this symposium, this research aims to, firstly, soften the geographical categorization in the history field, by demonstrating the close relation between the (making of) "local" and "global" history. Secondly, it hopes to connect art history with other types of history, such as social and conceptual, by showing art history is not just history of "artist", but also of cultural concepts and identities.

## Philanthropy, Products and Patriotism: The Advertisements of Lim Peng Siang and Tan Kah Kee in Late Colonial Singapore 1920-1941

Jeremy GOH

*History, Nanyang Technological University*

Most works on the history of Chinese businesses deal with corporate structures, strategies, networks, state-business relations and institutions such as clan associations and chambers of commerce. In comparison, they pay lesser attention to the cultural products of Chinese concerns, particularly advertisements. This paper attempts to fill this gap by analysing and comparing the advertisements of the Singapore-based Ho Hong Company and Tan Kah Kee & Company — industrial concerns which were owned by Lim Peng Siang and Tan Kah Kee respectively. In particular, it seeks to understand why did both entrepreneurs invest considerably in advertising and the significance of these advertisements to their businesses, as well as the changing political, economic and social environment of pre-war Singapore. Through so doing, this paper argues that both entrepreneurs used advertisements as a key marketing strategy to widen their customer bases by associating their products with philanthropy and nationalistic sentiments. Taken together, it hopes to provide a fresh perspective on understanding the interaction of profitability, philanthropy and patriotism among Chinese businesses in colonial Singapore.

# Okinawan Pottery in the Twentieth Century: Japan's Glances of Exoticism and Development in Style

Mio TOMIYORI

*Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies, Kyoto University*

This study reviews changes of Okinawan pottery in style over the 20th Century in comparison with Japan's cultural consumption in the background, under the argument that Japanese intellectuals have often expected Okinawan culture to represent "exoticism" or at the same time as to be "the archetype of good old Japan." The pottery has been particularly influenced on such contradictory expectations, as it used to be solely for domestic use before getting economic attention from Japan. This condition enables this study to present a relatively pure process that the reputation from a suzerain be internalized in the artifacts in the colonized area, providing a starting point to add a new page of "Okinawa" to the mutual history in Asian pottery from the viewpoint of Colonialism. Okinawan pottery in the 20th can be divided into three phases; pure exoticism, localism, and primitivism. The first period when Okinawan pots gained popularity in Japan was around 1920s, when Riheian Kuroda, a merchant from Japan, invented a new form of ceramics called Koten-yaki ("classic ceramics") with patterns completely irrelevant to Okinawa. Such products reflected Japan's pure desire to discover something exotic in Okinawan culture, while prompting local artisans to introduce new techniques to their conventional products. In 1938, such products were replaced by Mingei ("folk-art" in Japanese), when the members of the Mingei Association, including Soetsu Yanagi, became fascinated with the "richness" of Okinawan "daily," "local" products. Although their theory remains dominant in Okinawa even after the WWII because of their economic success, their idealization of old lifestyle has been sometimes criticized as a kind of Orientalism. Meanwhile, others started putting an emphasis on something more spiritual in Okinawan culture after the war, including ancient clay pots. Around the same period, Okinawan individual ceramists also worked on unglazed pots, exaggerating primitive or distorted shapes and materials.

4B

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

## Luis Fernando BERNARDI JUNQUEIRA

*Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong*

- Luis Fernando Bernardi Junqueira has earned a master's degree in Chinese History from the Department of History at Fudan University and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong. His research interests include the history of Chinese medicine (particularly ritual healing and folk medicine), material culture, and history of the book in the late imperial and republican China. He has additional interests in public history, medical humanities, and digital history.

## ZHU Wenqi

*Fine Arts, The University of Hong Kong*

- Miss Zhu has graduated from the University of Hong Kong with a BA in art history and currently in her 1st-year Mphil study under the supervision of Prof. Thomas and Dr. Mansour. Her research interests include 18th-century travel imagery, book illustration and publication, as well as European printed works on China particularly in the context of British Imperialism.

## Janet WONG Yuet Hang

*History of Art and Archaeology, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London*

- Yuet Heng WONG is a PhD candidate in Chinese art history of SOAS, University of London. Her research is about the "Lingnan School of Painting", with an emphasis on the arts by Chao Shao-an (1905-1998) and their visual and public representations. She is interested in exploring how the concept of "Lingnan culture/ cultural identity" had been constructed within and beyond the "Lingnan" region. Currently in her second year, she is now a visiting scholar at the Hong Kong Center of L'Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient, doing fieldwork in the US and Asia. Other research interests include Sino-French artistic interaction.

## Jeremy GOH

### *History, Nanyang Technological University*

- Jeremy Goh is a graduate student under Nanyang Technological University's Master of Arts in Global and Interdisciplinary History programme. His research focuses on
- the business history of colonial Southeast Asia, with emphasis on the development
- of Chinese business structures, strategies and networks. Currently, he is exploring the
- history of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the roles it played in
- business transitions within Singapore and Malaya between the late nineteenth and
- early twentieth century.

## Mio TOMIYORI

### *Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies, Kyoto University*

- Mio Tomiyori has developed her passion for placing ceramic art in broader fields of
- study including postwar/contemporary art history, aesthetics and sociology. After
- her graduation from Kyoto University, Faculty of Letters, she is now studying modern
- Okinawan ceramics from the perspective of colonialist art, as a second-year student
- of Kyoto University, Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies.

SESSION 5

---

**5A**

**RELIGIOUS MISSIONS AND MOVEMENTS**

---

03 May, Friday

9.40-11.00

Room 4.36

---

**Senia TONG**

MODERATOR

---

**From Guardias de Honor to the Los Agraviados: A Historiographical Study on Religious-Political Movements Discourse 1872-1910**

*Maria Maragarita Mercado BAGUISI*

**Cosmopolitan Christianity: The Case of Bishop C.R. Duppuuy 1881-1944**

*Tim YUNG*

**German Missions, Hong Kong Colonial Government and the First World War**

*Iris C. W. LEUNG*

**Consuming the Nation: Food, Drink and Diaspora in the American Missionary Memoir**

*Hayley KEON*

---



## **From Guardias de Honor to the Los Agraviados: A Historiographical Study on Religious-Political Movements Discourse 1872-1910**

**Maria Maragarita Mercado BAGUISI**

*History, De La Salle University - Manila*

The Guardia de Honor de Maria was a religious confraternity established by the Dominican Order in the Philippines in order to promote the Marian Devotion in the late 19th century. However, during the Philippine Revolution of 1896, they were known to be against the Revolutionaries and the First Philippine Republic eventually identifying themselves as the 'Los Agraviados'. Soon, the organization became engaged in criminality and lawlessness until the early 20th century. The study aims to reconstruct a short historical survey of the confraternity in order to provide to the understanding of its historical significance, in the context of a critical transitional period towards nationhood of the Philippines. The paper discussed the movement of the confraternity in three parts: Establishment and Early Years 1872-1882; The Confraternity during the Revolution 1882-1898; and American Occupation 1898 - 1910. Using a historiographical analysis of relevant historical documents the study contributes to discourse on religious-political movements in the Philippines.

5A

## **Cosmopolitan Christianity: The Case of Bishop C.R. Duppy 1881-1944**

**Tim YUNG**

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

Existing research in Global History and the history of World Christianity has compellingly demonstrated transnational connections through the study of cultural encounter and intellectual exchange. Transnational relationships between historical actors and events are most easily detected through visible and measurable indicators. For cross-cultural Christianity, this includes rituals, printed material, and architecture. My communication seeks to use the alternative approach of biography as a means of exploring World Christianity and global connections. The life of C.R. Duppy, Bishop of Victoria (Hong Kong) and later Assistant Bishop of Worcester, not only affirms the worldwide interconnectedness of canon law, theology, and social practice, but also exposes relatively under-studied links such as family, friendship networks, and administrative methods across the international Anglican Communion. For example, whilst most historians would rightly connect Bishop Duppy's plans to reform the Diocese of Victoria in 1920 with the recent Lambeth Conference he attended and national Christian conferences in China, few would realize that the practical measures he used to implement the reform were gleaned from his former colleagues at the Church Missionary Society, fellow bishops who were his friends, and his former superior at Aston Parish Church where he began his career as a curate. The case of Bishop C.R. Duppy serves as a reminder to Global History and studies in World Christianity to look beyond the external signs of cultural encounter and instead towards subtler and more personal elements of cosmopolitanism.

# German Missions, Hong Kong Colonial Government and the First World War

Iris C. W. LEUNG

*History, The University of Hong Kong and King's College London*

This work-in-progress presentation will look into the implementation of a British policy targeting at German missionary societies in Hong Kong during and after the First World War. It will review the work of German missions in the colony and their relationship with the colonial government and with local British missions. It then studies the actions undertaken by different colonial administrators (Sir Francis Henry May, Sir Claud Severn and Sir Reginald Edward Stubbs) – with the help of local British missions - in implementing the policy. It was argued that properties portfolio possessed by the German missions was a key barrier delaying the return of German missions to Hong Kong.

5A

# Consuming the Nation: Food, Drink and Diaspora in the American Missionary Memoir

Hayley KEON

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

Scholars have long recognised the centrality of food in diasporic writing. As tangible symbols of belonging, dishes, drinks, and sundries serve to link the past to the present, bringing displaced communities into communion with homelands (both real and imagined) through the rituals of preparation and consumption. But while these 'powerful semiotic devices,' as Arjun Appadurai describes them, often function as sites of perceived continuity with historical forebears, they also expose anxieties of difference as changing appetites become representative of the estrangement that lies at the heart of the diasporic experience. In this paper, I examine the connection between food and diasporic American identity in two memoirs written by the former missionary and academic John Jenkins Espey (1913-2000). Born to Presbyterian missionaries based in pre-communist Shanghai, Espey's first tastes of America were literal ones; and as he narrates in *Minor Heresies* (1945) and *Strong Drink, Strong Language* (1990), American fare assumes an almost mythic stature in his childhood imagination as a metonym for the "home" he has never seen. At the same time, the exoticism with which this food is portrayed marks his alienation from American tastes and ways of living, embodying the tensions between diasporic and mother cultures that underwrote missionary childhoods throughout the vast expanse of the American evangelist enterprise in the early twentieth century. Thus, by exploring these linkages between food and the youthful narrative self, this paper contributes to a wider discussion about the experiences of children as conflicted agents of American imperialism in East Asia.

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**Maria Maragarita Mercado BAGUISI**

*History, De La Salle University - Manila*

- Maria Margarita Mercado Baguisi is a graduate History student at De La Salle University, Manila Philippines (DLSU). Her research interests include studies on
- nationalism, colonial studies, social movements, and contemporary history. She can
- be reached at maria\_margarita\_baguisi@dlsu.edu.ph

**Tim YUNG**

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Tim Yung is a second year research postgraduate at the History Department of the
- University of Hong Kong. His research interests include World Christianity, global
- history, the history of modern China, and cultural history, especially in the context
- of cross-cultural encounter, which has been a formative experience for him. His
- dissertation research focuses on South China Anglican identity c.1900-1950.

**Iris C.W. LEUNG**

*History, The University of Hong Kong and King's College London*

- Iris C.W. LEUNG is a first year student in the joint PhD programme (University of Hong
- Kong-King's College London). She is interested in the history of Christian missions
- in global history, especially their work in colonial Hong Kong and China. Her current
- study focuses on the German missions in Hong Kong during the First World War.

**Hayley KEON**

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Hayley Keon is a PhD student at the University of Hong Kong, and is a recipient of
- the Hong Kong Research Council's PhD Fellowship. Her research focuses on the
- experiences of American missionary youth in treaty port China during the early years
- of the twentieth century.

5A

SESSION 5

**5B**

## **DISEASE, MEDICINE, AND HEALTH**

03 May, Friday

9.40-11.00

Room 4.34

**Adonis LI**

MODERATOR

---

**Politics, Jurisdiction and Technology: Forensic Medicines and late-Qing Shanghai and their Republican Legacy**  
*XIAO Zhongxian*

**Disease and Modern Medicine in Siam Prison**  
*Raviwan RAKTHINKAMNERD*

**Generative Pests and Makeshift Empire: Reframing Plague in Hong Kong**  
*Jack GREATREX*

**Cartographic Anxieties: Mapping Animals, Health, and the Philippine Question**  
*Nicolo LUDOVICE*

---

# Politics, Jurisdiction and Technology: Forensic Medicines and late-Qing Shanghai and their Republican Legacy

XIAO Zhongxian

*Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Science, The University of Hong Kong*

Since 1860s, the Municipal Council representing the Shanghai foreign ratepayers' interests, also western assessors in Mixed Court, constantly had been evading Qing's Shanghai magistrate's lawful jurisdiction over Chinese subject and treaty-unrepresented foreigners. Death, and the related Foucauldian techniques regulating it, like death registration through licensed physician, anatomy-based forensic medicine to detect cause of unnatural death, etc., were central to the ascending Western governmentality in a highly cosmopolitan also chaotic Shanghai settlement in 19th century. Certainly, scientific modernity of the West constituted a sense of superiority over traditional Chinese criminal justice and forensic inquest—a set of longstanding, standardized practices guided by classic Washing Away of Wrongs. The 19th-century English beleaguered coronership system in home, however, and understaffed public hospitals facilitating modern forensic inspection, Qing and Great British respectively flexible multi-ethics governances as well, complicated the the supposed story of "forensic modernity" in Shanghai settlement. In addition, I suggest that Qing's local agency maintained its efficiency and authority over forensic inquest before western gazes via indigenous social, culture and technical network until 1900s. There was a co-existence and competition between two forensic inquest practices in 19th century settlement. This situation has its legacy in late Qing and early republic. Qing legal reformer like Shen Jiaben and Wu Tingfang, showed little enthusiasm on revolutionizing traditional forensic inquest, let alone linking it with the pretext of extraterritoriality. In fact, it was the rising of native medical professions in metropolis, like Lin Ji in 1920s, that accelerated to impose efficacy-based, instead of formalization-oriented, new forensic medicine on China criminal inquest.

5B

## Disease and Modern Medicine in Siam Prison

Raviwan RAKTHINKAMNERD

*Faculty of Sociology and Anthropology, Thammasat University*

This article studies the evolution of disease and medicine in Siam prison from 1887 to 1907, a period which the Siamese government tried to Westernize the country. Using medical documents of this period, the author found that Western medicine was used in prison by foreign doctors who were government officers. Thus, the prison became the "Laboratory of Modernity" in terms of modern medical knowledge and experiments. Remarkable examples include using the same medical term for both disease name and human organs; using scientific equipment, western medicine, and epidemic control; controlling human's body through nutrition; and controlling health of population through health policy. The more advanced medical development, tools and treatment have become, the more complicated the disease appeared to be. For instance, the name of the disease became more specific to the affected organ. Moreover, "prisoner's body" becomes a 'field' of medical knowledge between Thai traditional medical knowledge and Western medical knowledge both before and after the advent of "Germ Theory." Cause of the disease is a major factor defining distinguishment of understanding regarding medical knowledge. For instance, before the 19th Century, the prison health policy was based on Miasmatic Theory. Most doctors believed that air and water incurred diseases among patients. Therefore, the policy focused on management of jail environment and polymedication of both Thai traditional and Western medical practice. However, after the 19th Century, medical practice in jail switched to modern medicine based on Germ Theory. The method was so successful at the time that it had become a foundation for medical school in the prison and its establishment. This prison's medical school eventually produced modern doctor that the country lacked at the time.

# Generative Pests and Makeshift Empire: Reframing Plague in Hong Kong

Jack GREATREX

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

Likely the first reflection on how the 'sad history' of plague in Hong Kong ought to be written was expressed in June 1894, amidst the chaos of the first outbreak. Governor William Robinson expected celebration of the selfless heroism of those colonial troops and medical officers who combated the epidemic with 'true British pluck'. Subsequent historiography has not quite followed this prescription. Emphases on heroism have been replaced with those of oppression; descriptions of 'pluck' with those – to quote Myron Echenberg – of the state's 'harsh and culturally repugnant' approach. As thesis and antithesis, these two views stand in stark contrast. Yet, this paper argues for the inadequacy of both. It posits that their distinction conceals commonalities: shared parameters of attention to the agency of the state, the treatment of plague as a discrete category, and an overwhelming emphasis on the human and, at best, one or two other animals. This paper repositions plague. It places it in a 'multi-species' world – to employ the language of recent anthropology on human-animal relations – expanding far beyond the totemic figures of the rat and flea, to bring in flies, mosquitoes, pigs, cows, cats, and caterpillars. It links plague as an emerging disease with the 'emergent ecologies' enabled by Hong Kong's economies and geographies. Breaking from both pluck and repression, this paper retreats from the agency of the colonial state. It examines the conditions in which certain concepts emerged into administrative and scientific discourse. It refigures plague science in terms of enterprising individuals and institutions, scrambling for prestige and funding in often makeshift and parsimonious circumstances. This paper further places plague in Hong Kong within a wider context of the British Empire in Asia, seeing it as part of broad discourse of 'pests' emerging from specific sites across Southeast and East Asia.

5B

# Cartographic Anxieties: Mapping Animals, Health and the Philippine Question

Nicolo LUDOVICE

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

This paper examines the mapping of animal spaces as a constitutive exercise in establishing modern health and addressing colonial anxieties in the early-twentieth-century American Philippines. Focusing on an 1899 medical report by the Johns Hopkins University Special Commission of the Prevalent Diseases in the Philippines and a 1909 US medical survey of the town of Taytay in southern Luzon, the paper considers colonial efforts to map the connections between animal locales, including forested areas, farmlands, and public markets. In this manner, mapping animal sites brought to the fore the study of health, disease, and hygiene as a responsibility of the colonial state. At the same time, the mapping of these spaces belongs to a greater context known as "The Philippine Question", where the status of the country was placed under scrutiny after its acquisition by the United States in 1898. Drawing primarily on these studies, the argument is made that mapping animal sites produced knowledge about the health conditions of these spaces, and at the same time, formed new anxieties. Although the production of animal geographies and associated cartographic practices have tended to be sidelined in colonial histories, the paper suggests that they were in fact central to an emergent twentieth-century colonial governmentality that increasingly focused on reading across and between sites at different scales: local, provincial, colonial, and imperial.

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

## XIAO Zhongxian

*Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Science, The University of Hong Kong*

- I am Year-two Mphil student at Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Science, major in history of science and technology in East Asian context. I am currently working on history of forensic medicine in Shanghai settlement in Late-Qing and Republican China, drawing on the perspective of “Socio-technical Systems”. Through embedding the forensic inquest of traditional China and colonial west in Chinese treaty port, I hope to more be critical of the traditional wisdoms on the “interaction” between the judicial reform and scientific modernity in modern China.

## Raviwan RAKTHINKAMNERD

*Faculty of Sociology and Anthropology, Thammasat University*

- I am Graduate student in Sociology and Anthropology, major anthropology Thammasat University Thailand. I am interested in the area of History and Anthropology of science and medical, marginal people and multispecies anthropology. I have three-year experience as an investigative correspondence in Thailand. I do a project about the right of women ex-prisoners and women prisoners in Thailand with Fairly tell group. For example, the study paper focus on limited conditions, infection disease, and campaigning right above their body during the detainment. Now, I am doing a thesis of the lice and women prisoner’s social life in women’s correctional institution.

## Jack GREATREX

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Jack Greatrex is currently a PhD student in the History Department of the University of Hong Kong. He previously took his BA in History and MPhil in World History at the University of Cambridge. His principal interests are at the crossroads of medical history, environmental history, and imperial history. His current project deals with pests, spanning the Chinese treaty-port world and Southeast Asia.

## Nicolo LUDOVICE

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Nicolo Paolo P. Ludovice is completing his PhD in the Department of History at The University of Hong Kong. His research interests broadly cover the history of science, technology, and medicine in the Philippines and Southeast Asia, including biomedicine, public health, zoonoses, and history of animals. His current research project investigates the historical animal geographies and its intersections in medicine and health during the nineteenth- and twentieth-century Philippines.

5B

SESSION 6

**6A**

## **EDUCATION AND LANGUAGE**

03 May, Friday

11.20-12.40

Room 4.36

**Iris C. W. LEUNG**

MODERATOR

---

**An Analysis of Social and Cultural History of Eastern Muslims in Sri Lanka**

*Abdul Raheem JESMIL*

**A Comparative Prosopography of Scholars of Peking University and National Southeast University 1919-1927**

*Sammantha HO Siu Ping*

**Language Politics in Hong Kong, 1967-1982**

*Allan PANG*

---



# An Analysis of Social and Cultural History of Eastern Muslims in Sri Lanka

Abdul Raheem JESMIL

*History, University of Jaffna*

This research is about the historical continuity of Muslim community in the east of Sri Lanka. In the east, coast, Muslims are proportionately majority and socio-culturally district community. While Muslims speak Tamil as their home language and the language of education, they claim that they are a district community ethnically. The reasons that propose for distinctiveness are mainly due to their distinct religious and cultural practices that they say that are different from others which make them a separate community. There is an academic need for evaluating Muslims' claim and assessing their socio-cultural distinctiveness not only in the east coast of Sri Lanka; but throughout Sri Lanka. A study in the eastern Sri Lanka provide an excellent opportunity to evaluate this. Unfortunately, no systematic study has been conducted not only the eastern Sri Lanka but also in Sri Lanka on this theme. This study attempts to fill the long felt need of an academic intervention on socio- cultural distinctiveness of Muslims of the east. This study is done through a historical perspective.

6A

# A Comparative Prosopography of Scholars of Peking University and National Southeast University 1919-1927

Sammantha HO Siu Ping

*History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

It is widely accepted that Peking University (Beida) was one of the most historically important national universities both in education and politics in the Republic of China. It became an established academic and cultural center under the direction of Cai Yuanpei. With his ideal of "inclusion and toleration of different thoughts", prominent scholars from different backgrounds were recruited. Among whom, the initiators of the New Culture Movement such as Hu Shi promoting westernization had a far-reaching impact on modern China. In southern China, the National Southeast University (Dongda) could be said to rival Beida for academic prestige by gathering together a group of young scholars mostly graduated from top-ranking universities in the United States and Europe. Scholars such as Wu Mi, Liu Yizheng and Liu Boming developed a different school of thought identifying against the New Culture camp at Beida upholding traditional Chinese culture. The contrasting perceptions of "new" and "old" between the two groups of intellectuals was identified as the Northern School and the Southern School. In this regard, the significance of studying the academics of Beida and Dongda are twofold: first, both universities and the two groups of scholars were considered to be the most academically influential in their time. Secondly, the period between 1919 and 1927 - overlapping with New Culture Movement - was crucial to not only Chinese society but also to the universities where the intellectuals actively exercised their influence. During these years, Beida and Dongda were entangled in different upheavals which altered their development. In particular, the struggle for power among individual academics and political parties was decisive for the universities. Conducting a prosopography on two contingents of academicians, this paper strives to examine the underlying structure and connections between individuals in order to explain the historical trajectory of Beida and Dongda.

# Language Politics in Hong Kong, 1967-1982

! Allan PANG

! *History, The University of Hong Kong*

In 1974 the Hong Kong government introduced the Official Languages Ordinance, which declared both Chinese and English as official languages. To many Chinese activists who had fought for an official recognition of their language, this should have been a cause for celebration. However, in less than a decade's time many local Chinese started to criticise the colonial government again for not respecting their language. This paper examines the government's language policies from the late 1960s to the early 1980s. It will analyse how the government responded to the Chinese Language Movement through the ordinance, and how officials broke the ordinance in their daily work. This paper aims to make several arguments. Instead of being truly benevolent, colonial rulers during this era were in fact prioritising British interests. Suppressing anti-British sentiments and prolonging colonial rule in Hong Kong were important missions of the government. Moreover, Governor Murray MacLehose's social reforms did not really break from previous policies. Part of his reforms, including those related to language, was copying from his predecessors. Finally, the development of the Chinese Language Movement and responses from the colonial government also illustrates how international affairs, such as the Cold War and student movements, influenced Hong Kong's development.

6A

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

## Abdul Raheem JESMIL

*History, University of Jaffna*

- PRESENT POSITION: In-charge of the Heritage Museum, Kattankudy Department of Archaeology., with effect from 2nd July 2013 up to now.
- ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION: Master of Philosophy in History, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Jaffna (Reading) Bachelor of Arts (Honors), Specialization in History (2nd Class Lower), Faculty of Art, University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka (Effective Date: November 2006)
- OTHER EXPERIENCE: Research associate in a team of researchers that include Professors Jonathan Spencer (UK), Jonathan Goodhand (UK), Benedikt Korf (Swaziland), Kalinga Tudor Silva (University of Peradeniya) and S. H. Hasbullah (University of Peradeniya) on the aspect of "Faith and Building in the Eastern Sri Lanka" up to April, 2008

## Sammantha HO Siu Ping

*History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

- Sammantha Ho is currently pursuing a Ph.D. degree in history from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her main research interests revolve around intellectuals and education in early twentieth-century China. More specifically, she is exploring the networks between scholars, academic institutes, political parties and associations with the methods of prosopography.

## Allan PANG

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Allan Pang is an MPhil student in the History Department at the University of Hong Kong. His research interests include Hong Kong history, colonial history, modern Chinese history, and history education. His current research examines Chineseness in Hong Kong from 1967 to 1982. Through analysing government policies on languages, celebrations, and objects (such as postage stamps, coins, and monuments), he investigates how the colonial government attempted to shape and control Chineseness in the colony.

SESSION 6

**6B**

**GLOBAL HISTORY**

03 May, Friday

11.20-12.40

Room 4.34

**Jackie WANG**

MODERATOR

---

**Chinese Perspectives on Global History**

*Sebas RUMKE*

**The Megaton Mission: The Role of the Nuclear Arms Race in 1950s British Imperialism**

*Joseph David Daniel HOLDING*

**Purposeful Participation: Hong Kong and International Toy Fairs**

*Joyce LAU*

**Contested Loyalty: Human Rights, Human Needs, and Developing Nations, 1978-1980**

*Dongkue LEE*

---

# Chinese Perspectives on Global History

Sebas RUMKE

*History, University of Hamburg & Fudan University*

Since the early years of Chinese People's Republic, historical scholarship in China has been organized according to a conceptual and institutional distinction between "Chinese history" (Zhongguo lishi) and the history of the rest of the world, labelled "world history" (shijie lishi). Chinese history and "world history" were (and for the most part still are) discussed in separate books and studied in separate university departments. The roots of this distinction can be traced back to the 1920s, when discussions of China's identity led to a conceptual distinction between the notions of the "Chinese" and the "foreign", and was perpetuated with the foundation of the People's Republic and subsequent influence of Soviet historiography in which a similar distinction between national and foreign history existed. Since the relaxation of political censorship in the early 1980s, a number of Chinese historians have attempted to transcend this divide and integrate accounts of the Chinese past into the narrative of world history. These attempts gained new momentum around the beginning of the twenty-first century, when the People's Republic joined the World Trade Organization and increasingly manifested itself as a global player. The subsequent rise of the concept of "global history" (quanqiu shi) in Chinese academia, which was derived from Western history-writing, provided the Chinese advocates of an integrative perception of the past with a label to explicitly promote an innovative outlook of history. I study the exchange of ideas about integrative and global history between Chinese and Western historians, which took place at different moments throughout the twentieth century and became a frequent phenomenon in the new millennium. I will discuss what determined the varying influence of different Western authors in China, and how notions of global history, although derived from Western works, often were understood in a different light in China than in the West.

6B

## The Megaton Mission: The Role of the Nuclear Arms Race in 1950s British Imperialism

Joseph David Daniel HOLDING

*History, Lingnan University*

In the 1950s, the nuclear arms race was a major part of the Cold War. However, the United States and Soviet Union were not the only powers with nuclear programmes during this period. Churchill and consequent Conservative governments were keen in developing a nuclear arsenal in anticipation of another large-scale war. Operation Grapple was conducted secretly from 1954-58 on Christmas Island, then part of the Gilbert Islands. Despite being a relatively short-lived series of experiments, the impacts were profound, especially from a colonial point of view. Aspirations for a megaton bomb meant Christmas Island went from being seen as an obscure colony on the edge of the map to a hive of activity with the local population and ecology coming second to the weapons programme. Historians examining the British nuclear programme have generally done so through the lens of the Cold war. However, I aim to broaden the contextualising of Operation Grapple by examining it from a colonial point of view. Official government sources saw the experiments as a colonial operation, which is reflected by the testimonies of military personnel present. The movement of people, and attitudes toward the native population were consistent with the established imperial structure. Moreover, another aim of my research is to emphasise the testimonies of the Gilbertese and Fijian population involved, whose voice has been sorely missing from previous scholarship. With the ongoing legal battle with the British government for compensation for damage caused to the indigenous population and their homeland, increased historical agency is of the utmost importance when examining the history of Cold War Colonialism.

## Purposeful Participation: Hong Kong and International Toy Fairs

Joyce LAU

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

This paper explores Hong Kong's participation in international toy fairs from the 1960s to the 1970s. As one of the world's major toy producers, Hong Kong was a regular participant in many of the international toy fairs held in major cities around the world in this period. While other participating countries mainly perceived the toy fairs as platforms for selling their products and establishing business contacts, Hong Kong saw the fairs differently. Toymakers from the colony did not simply regard toy fairs as chances to showcase their products and gain profit, but opportunities to interact with foreign toy producers from all over the world. Drawing on catalogues, newspapers, correspondences, and reports, this paper will trace the various ways Hong Kong toymakers actively shared information about market trends, and exchanged technologies, designs, and ideas with foreign manufacturers at international toy fairs. Through dynamic processes of interaction and exchange, Hong Kong influenced global toy production and made significant contributions to the global toy industry. As a result, a rich variety of playthings became available for the world to consume.

6B

## Contested Loyalty: Human Rights, Human Needs and Developing Nations 1978-1980

Dongkue LEE

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

I will present an analysis of the newly developed idea of human rights having a role in international food affairs, particularly related to the Jimmy Carter administration's commission on World Hunger (1978–1980). This commission, which was led by Sol Linowitz and Terrence A. Rogers, revealed how the notions of social and economic rights in the 1970s differed from those of the previous era. Human rights discourse became more salient when described in terms of "basic needs" or "human needs," which emerged in the international development area as a counter narrative of the decolonization of the late 1960s and the early 1970s. The concept of fulfillment of minimum levels of nutrition, health, and education as rights of individuals substituted as a project of the welfare state, enormously changing the dialogue of development thinking, especially in terms of food and nutrition in developing countries. Within this context, the Commission issued its report with massive findings, showing an intention to integrate food and hunger issues with market ideology such as distribution systems and individual priorities. The Commission's report urged the U.S. Government to make the elimination of hunger the primary focus of its relationships with developing countries. It not only meant an increase of traditional aid, but also a demand for a global response to international market relationships. Through exploring the Commission on World Hunger and related actions in international food affairs, I will explain the role that human rights played in the overall political transformation during the 1970s and beyond, which I consider having begun with pivotal transformations among individuals such as farmers, marketers, and consumers—not with the maneuvering of policymakers and grandiose intellectuals.

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Sebas RUMKE

*History, University of Hamburg & Fudan University*

- Sebas Rümke got his MA in history from the Free University of Amsterdam in 2015. He wrote his thesis about the Global History Center of Capital Normal University in Beijing, where he stayed in 2012-13. Since 2017, he is a joint PhD candidate at the University of Hamburg and Fudan University (at both institutions affiliated with the Department of History). He studies how ideas about world and global history at Chinese universities were formed through exchanges between Chinese and foreign scholars, focusing on a period from the beginning of the twentieth century up till the present.

Joseph David Daniel HOLDING

*History, Lingnan University*

- Joseph Holding currently undertaking his MPhil in History at Lingnan University. His research interests include colonial history, especially how indigenous populations interacted with the colonial framework, the history of science and how these areas intersect. His current research focuses on Micronesia in the 1950s, and how Britain's desire for a nuclear arsenal impacted on the region, the people involved in the experiments, as well as the local population.

Joyce LAU

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Joyce Lau is a second-year History PhD student at the University of Hong Kong. She is interested in Hong Kong history, global history, and the history of material culture. Her current research project looks at the production and consumption of toys in colonial Hong Kong.

Dongkue LEE

*History, The University of Hong Kong*

- Dongkue Lee is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at the university of Hong Kong. He earned his bachelor's degree in History and Education and a master's degree in History from Korea University, Seoul. His current research is about global history of human rights, focusing on hunger, malnutrition, and development in the 1960s and 1970s.

6B

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

---

## Internet and Wi-fi Access

Wi-fi access is available throughout the campus. To gain complimentary access to the wi-fi service, please access the network **Wi-fi.HK via HKU**. Password is not required.

## Water

While the Symposium will provide bottled water for all presenters, all participants are encouraged to bring their own water bottles. Water refilling stations are available on the the 3/F of the Run Run Shaw Tower.

## Assistance

Throughout the Symposium, assistance is available. Please do not hesitate to approach one of the members of the Organizing Committee for your special needs.



# HKU CENTENNIAL CAMPUS MAP



## Option 1 MTR & Taxi

Take Airport Express train from HK International Airport to Hong Kong Station, Central (train fare is about HK\$120 and the train ride takes 25 minutes). Then take a taxi from Central to HKU (taxi fare: HK\$60 to \$80 + luggage fee; 20-minute ride to HKU). Although there are green minibuses from Central to the campus, this is not recommended as they do not allow luggage.

## Option 2 MTR

If you would like to go to the University Main Campus, take Airport Express train from Hong Kong International Airport to Hong Kong station, interchange for HKU Station on Island Line. Exit A1/A2 will lead you to Main Campus while Exit C1 will lead you to Centennial Campus.

## Option 3 Bus & Taxi

Take bus No. A11 from HK International Airport to Central (bus fare is HK\$40, 1-hour bus ride). Then take a taxi in Central to HKU (taxi fare: HK\$60 to \$80 + luggage fee; 20-minute ride to HKU).

## Option 4 Taxi

If your budget permits, simply take a taxi from HK International Airport to the hall directly, the cost is about HK\$350 and the travelling time is approximately 45 minutes.

## Option 5 Bus

You can take bus No. A10 at HK International Airport. then get off at The Westwood, Belcher's Street then proceed to the HKU MTR station. Proceed to the Exit C1 and it will lead you straight to the Centennial Campus. The fare is HK\$48.















**2019 Spring History Symposium  
Organising Committee**

**COORDINATORS**

Ms. Joyce LAU  
Mr. Dongkue LEE  
Mr. Nicolo LUDOVICE  
Mr. Reynold TSANG  
Ms. Jackie WANG  
Ms. Shuang WU  
Mr. Tim YUNG

**MODERATORS**

Mr. Jack GREATREX  
Ms. Hayley KEON  
Mr. Dongkue LEE  
Ms. Iris C. W. LEUNG  
Mr. Adonis LI  
Mr. Nicolo LUDOVICE  
Mr. Allan PANG  
Ms. Senia TONG  
Ms. Jackie WANG  
Mr. Xingjian YAN  
Mr. Tim YUNG

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**

Mr. Nicolo LUDOVICE

**WEBMASTER**

Mr. Dongkue LEE

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**

Mr. Andy LEUNG

**ADVISORS**

Prof. Robert PECKHAM  
Prof. John CARROLL  
Dr. Peter CUNICH  
Prof. David POMFRET

This Spring Symposium has been generously  
supported by the

**Research Grants Council, Hong Kong**

**School of Humanities**

**Faculty of Arts**

and

**History Endowment Fund**

Photo Credits:

Cathay Pacific Airways Vintage Poster. Pinterest.

<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/1b/42/2d/1b422d0b9b70567ff32357aaafecb82f.jpg>