



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

Organized by the Department of History
The University of Hong Kong

Spring History Symposium

Transnationalisms, Interactions, and
Connections in Modern Asia and Beyond
3-4 May 2018

SPRING HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

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Day 1: 3rd May, 2018 (Thursday)

Time:	Event:	Panel:	Moderator:	Presenter / Title:
09:00 – 09:15	Registration			
09:15 – 09:30	Opening remarks (Room 4.36)		Bobby TAM	Prof. John CARROLL, Postgraduate Coordinator.
09:30 – 11:00	Session 1 (Room 4.36)	War and Society	Shuang WU	<p>Reed CHERVIN, Domestic Reactions to the 1962 Sino-Indian War</p> <p>Norman JOSHUA, Contending Modernities of Warfare in Postcolonial Indonesia: The Dutch Military Mission in Indonesia (Nederlands Militaire Missie in Indonesië), 1950-1953</p> <p>Raphael NGAI, Fighting Crimes and Establishing Stability: Japanese Attempts to Maintain Law and Order in Hong Kong, 1941-45</p> <p>Nathan KWAN, Our Common Enemy? The Expedition against Shap- ng-tsai and Anglo-Chinese Compromises in the Suppression of Piracy</p>
11:00 – 11:15	Break			
11:15 – 12:45	Session 2 (Room 4.36)	Environment	Tim YUNG	<p>Nicolo P. LUDOVICE, Beastly Pasts: Animals, Medicine, and Health in the Nineteenth-Century Philippines</p> <p>Lisa ANDREW, ‘Modified Fruit: Weaving a transcultural practice through leaving, returning and about being from elsewhere’</p> <p>Beatrice CHONG, Taiwan's humanitarian giving to Japan following the 2011 Tōhoku Disaster</p>

				Rustam KHAN, A Tsarist Vladivostok in the Soviet Era: Architects and their Environmental Challenges
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch (Faculty Lounge)			
14:00 – 15:30	Session 3 (Room 4.36)	Material Culture	Jackie WANG	<p>Reynold TSANG, The Death and Rebirth of a Museum: From Hong Kong's Old City Hall Museum to the City Hall Museum and Art Gallery</p> <p>Wilson WONG, The Making of Contemporary Hong Kong Tea Culture: A Case Study of Jabbok Tea House</p> <p>Bobby TAM, A Cemetery of Our Own: Death management and identities in colonial Hong Kong at the turn of the twentieth century, 1894 -1913</p> <p>Ryan SUN, Photographing the Colony: Transnational Archives, Digital Tools, and the Dangers of Meta-Narratives</p>
15:30 – 15:45	Break			
15:45 – 17:15	Session 4 (Room 4.36)	Religion	Reynold TSANG	<p>Keith IP, Tridentine Mission Strategy under the Portuguese Padroado</p> <p>Mark DODGE, The Barbarian's Wife</p> <p>Tim YUNG, One Bishop, Two Systems: Jumbled Jurisdiction in South China Anglicanism, 1899-1950</p> <p>Weiyan SUN, Culture, Civilisation, and Christianity: 'Anti-Mission' in Lord Salisbury's Policy towards India</p>
17:15 – 17:45	Refreshment			

Day 2: 4th May, 2018 (Friday)

Time:	Event:	Panel:	Moderator:	Presenter / Title:
09:30 – 11:00	Session 5 (Room 4.36)	Gender	Dong Kue LEE	Jackie WANG, Female Business Elites in Modern China Lois Lu HAO, Marrying for the Nation—American-Educated Chinese Women and their Domestic Professionalism, 1900-1930 Shuang WU, Mothers Talk: Oral History and Motherhood in Hong Kong and the PRC, 1945-97 Yuri DOOLAN, The Problem of the "Mixed-Blood" Child: Camptown Women, Intercountry Adoption, and the First Generation of Korean Adoptees
11:00 – 11:15	Break			
11:15 – 12:30	Session 6 (Room 4.36)	Colonialism	Nicolo P. LUDOVICE	TCA ACHINTYA, Politics Great and Small: The Charter Act of 1813 and the Assertion of Sovereignty in India Melody SHUM, Legitimizing the Colonial State: The Police Mixte and the Policing of the Sino-Indochinese Borderlands, 1896-1918 David SAUNDERS, The Sound of Terror: Subversive Radio and Anti-Colonialism in North Borneo, 1963
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch (Faculty Lounge)			
14:00 – 15:15	Session 7 (Room 4.36)	Social Movement	Joyce LAU	Dong Kue LEE, Feeding Human Rights: Daniel Moynihan, the Indian Famine, and Transformation of Economic and Social Rights, 1968-1976 Jie NI, Hong Kong's Protect Tiao Yu Tai Movement in early 1970's a comparative study on Chinese students in Hong Kong and North America

				Mia Martin HOBBS, Vietnam's 'national policy' of forgiveness: American veterans and healing-through-reconciliation, 1980-2016
15:15 – 15:30	Break			
15:30 – 17:00	Keynote Speaker Talk by Prof. Anthony REID (Room 4.36)	Dr. Peter CUNICH	Cosmopolis and Vernacular: Competing impulses in Asian history	
17:00 – 17:15	Break			
17:15 – 17:30	Closing remarks (Room 4.36) Group photo	Bobby TAM	Prof. Anthony REID, Keynote Speaker Prof. David POMFRET, Department Chairperson	
18:00 – 20:00	Dinner			

1. Reed CHERVIN, The University of Hong Kong

Domestic Reactions to the 1962 Sino-Indian War

Drawing on Indian and Chinese archival sources, this paper demonstrates that the 1962 Sino-Indian War had a markedly different contemporaneous impact on the societies of these two countries. After war broke out, a nationwide panic swept India. The country mobilized to combat “Chinese aggression” by supporting Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, making donations for national defense, and fortifying cities. Both the Indian public and government also targeted suspected fifth-columnists, such as the Communist Party of India and Chinese residents. The most striking form of prosecution involved the internment of 2,000 Chinese in the state of Rajasthan.

In the People’s Republic of China, by contrast, no such mobilization occurred. China achieved a speedy victory, which was praised by its media, officials, military officers, and citizens. Furthermore, Beijing chose not to retaliate against Indians living in China. Some Chinese nevertheless criticized how their government handled the conflict with India, yet these views were marginalized.

2. Norman JOSHUA, Northwestern University

‘Contending Modernities of Warfare in Postcolonial Indonesia: The Dutch Military Mission in Indonesia (Nederlands Militaire Missie in Indonesië), 1950-1953

In a country where military is synonym with politics, the role of foreign military training and aid programs have been acutely underrepresented in the historiography. Established after the Round Table Conference of 1949, the Dutch Military Mission (NMM) in Indonesia was the first and largest of its kind. In 1953, the Mission was considered as Dutch meddling in Indonesian affairs, and it was unilaterally disbanded by the Indonesian government. Discussions regarding the NMM have focused excessively on nationalistic fervor as a cause of the failure. While I agree that ideological sentiments contributed to the disbandment of the NMM, emphasis on ideology alone obscures the fact that other factors were in play. I argue that the NMM ultimately failed to professionalize the Indonesian military because it was constrained by its limited capabilities, irreconcilable epistemological differences, and its politicization. Delving into Dutch and Indonesian sources, this paper aims not only to explore the vicissitudes of the formation of postcolonial militaries, but also to break the myth that military professionalism alone will automatically lead towards a non-political military.

Keywords: Indonesia, Guided Democracy, military, civil-military relations, professionalization

3. Raphael NGAI, The University of Hong Kong

Fighting Crimes and Establishing Stability: Japanese Attempts to Maintain Law and Order in Hong Kong, 1941-45

After taking over Hong Kong in December 1941, the Japanese occupation government was eager to consolidate its rule and restore social order. The Kempeitai was made responsible for maintaining law and order in the city. They protected people's life and property by catching thieves, forbidding gambling activities, fighting wild animals, and advising citizens on transportation, safety, health and other matters. They also conducted legal trials, issued licenses, enforced curfews and directed police recruitment and training. This paper aims to examine the duties and power of the Kempeitai and evaluate their efforts in facilitating the recovery and stability of Hong Kong.

Despite their efforts to re-establish public order, the Japanese Kempeitai showed injustice and cruelty by torturing and killing citizens, imposing inhumane punishment, confiscating people's property, engaging in bribery and corruption, destroying cultural relics, and involving in many other undesirable acts. Being the law enforcers, on many occasions, the Kempeitai mercilessly convicted people of crimes and betrayal based on suspicion and prejudice; while people continued to live under poverty, shortage of resources and hyperinflation throughout the Japanese occupation. As a result, the Japanese administration failed to gain people's support and this contributed to its ultimate defeat in the Second World War.

4. Nathan KWAN, The University of Hong Kong/ King's College London

Our Common Enemy? The Expedition against Shap-ng-tsai and Anglo-Chinese Compromises in the Suppression of Piracy

The Anglo-Chinese expedition against Shap-ng-tsai brought together two systems of international law against the common scourge of piracy. While the British considered pirates as enemies of all mankind, which could thus be engaged as combatants, Qing officials considered Chinese pirates as their subjects and purely under Chinese jurisdiction. Furthermore, as the action against Shap-ng-tsai occurred in the territorial waters of Annam, it violated British and Chinese understandings of maritime sovereignty. The law of nations prohibited British warships from taking actions against pirates within three miles of a foreign coast; the Qing were historically reluctant to send fleets to 'barbarian seas', considering piracy there the responsibility of their vassal, the King of Annam.

Consulting British and Qing sources, this paper attempts to provide a more holistic account of the expedition against Shap-ng-tsai, which has hitherto only been told from the British perspective. At the same time, it attempts to understand the seeming willingness by the British and Qing to violate their respective systems of international law in commencing hostilities in a foreign state's territorial waters. It argues that, through compromises and by overlooking certain aspects of their notions of sovereignty and jurisdiction, both sides achieved an astounding victory against one of the most powerful pirates in history and laid the ground for future cooperation against piracy in the China seas.

5. Nicolo P. LUDOVICE, The University of Hong Kong

Beastly Pasts: Animals, Medicine, and Health in the Nineteenth-Century Philippines

Over the last few decades, animal history has become an established field of academic inquiry. For the most part, however, scholars in the history of medicine and health persist in treating animals as circumstantial figures. Relinquished of their agency, animals tend to be viewed as background material in narratives that pivot on the human. In contrast, this paper argues for the need to resituate animals as central actors within histories of human medicine and health. The paper begins with an overview of the secondary literature on human-animal studies, identifying key themes and issues. Next, it examines the complex role of animals in shaping human health, including: as vectors and hosts of disease; as sources of medicine and medical knowledge; and as integral components of indigenous healing. The paper concludes with a discussion of human-animal relationships in an Asian context, specifically in the nineteenth-century Philippines. Drawing on preliminary research, the argument is made that tracing the evolution of animal-human relations can provide new perspectives on the constitution of colonial and indigenous health regimes.

6. Lisa ANDREW, The University of Wollongong

'Modified Fruit: Weaving a transcultural practice through leaving, returning and about being from elsewhere'

'Modified Fruit: Weaving a transcultural practice through leaving and returning and about being from elsewhere' addresses the politics of authenticity through a feminist view on displacement as an active strategy. I draw on the history of Piña (Pineapple cloth from the Philippines) as a metaphor for a transcultural 'traveller' - because of its mobility and inconsistency - which I compare with my position of being from 'elsewhere'. Transcultural processes generally involve appropriative acts of picking and choosing, producing both mistranslation and auto-ethnography, which resist the strategies of reversal and challenges the idea of culture as static.

My research into Piña cloth in the Philippines acknowledges that I am operating in the space of the 'Anthropologist's tent'. Through my research, I am practising 'alongside' (Trinh Minh Ha), as well as negotiating my relationship with the Philippines to address the politics of displacement exemplified by Piña - a politics that is also reflected in my own life experiences as a white Anglo woman living and working in colonised spaces. This paper contextualizes transculture with a feminist strategy of displacement to address ideas on identity informed by fragmented influences; a heterogeneity and intertextuality which repositions alliance through affinity.

7. Beatrice CHONG, The University of Hong Kong

Taiwan's humanitarian giving to Japan following the 2011 Tōhoku Disaster

The magnitude 9.0 earthquake occurred on 11 March 2011 is the largest earthquake ever to hit Japan as well as the fourth most powerful earthquake in the world since modern record-keeping began. Taiwan made the largest amount of overseas disaster contribution to Japan per capita. Givers included various agencies of the government to members of the general public, businesses to non-governmental organizations.

This paper explores the factors behind Taiwan's generous humanitarian giving to Japan, the world's third largest economy, after the 3.11 Disaster. There were three major motivations of Taiwan's aid to Japan – disaster diplomacy, friendship and familiarity, and humanitarian reciprocity. Taiwan strived to expand its political space, and humanitarian giving could be a pragmatic approach to break its diplomatic isolation. Being generous to disaster sufferers might also help Taiwan to enhance its international image. Moreover, the people of Taiwan generally held favourable impression to Japan, and they had received Japanese aid in previous disasters. Offering humanitarian relief to Japan was a return of favour as well as an attempt to strengthen the Taiwan-Japan relation.

8. Rustam KHAN, The University of Hong Kong

A Tsarist Vladivostok in the Soviet Era: Architects and their Environmental Challenges

The anchor point of this presentation is the following observation: a century since its founding in 1860, Vladivostok escaped the heavy upheavals of the Russian Revolutions and the World Wars, the Cultural Revolution of the 1930s, and the deep intervention of Stalinist classicist architecture. These Soviet episodes have historically transformed the Tsarist urban landscape in many places, but less so in Vladivostok. In the wake of the “environmental turn,” a major question has been, so far, little addressed: how did the region’s historical built and natural environment, including its geographic location, impact the urbanization in the post-WWII years?

Legacies of the Tsarist city were neither easily erased nor avoided by the postwar government and a wave of new architects. The latter, often outsiders educated in places such as Moscow and Leningrad, played an important role in the design of city plans. Despite bringing fresh and transnational perspectives, these architects were soon confronted by the unknown environment of Vladivostok. Based on archival documents from the 1930s to the 1950s, as well as secondary materials, this paper discusses and historicizes their challenges and attitudes in creating a “Soviet Vladivostok.”

The presentation argues that Vladivostok’s urban development was guided by vectors untypical in western regions of the Soviet Union. Therefore, perhaps a different view on urbanization in the Soviet periphery is needed to understand why so much of “Tsarist Vladivostok” in the Soviet era.

9. Reynold TSANG, The University of Hong Kong

The Death and Rebirth of a Museum: From Hong Kong's Old City Hall Museum to the City Hall Museum and Art Gallery

In 1869, the British established Hong Kong's first public museum in the Old City Hall. The Old City Hall Museum operated for around sixty years and remained as the sole public museum in Hong Kong. The museum met its end in 1933 when the Old City Hall was partly demolished. The closure of the Old City Hall Museum marked the temporary death of museums in Hong Kong. It was not until 1962 that a major public museum was established in the city again. The new museum was housed in the second and current City Hall and was known as the City Hall Museum and Art Gallery. This paper focuses on the colonial government's effort in reviving public museum services during 1933 to 1962, on which Hong Kong was basically a museum-less city. This paper seeks to answer the question: What attitudes and policies did the colonial government adopt in re-establishing a major public museum and what were the reasons behind? My findings suggest that the colonial government was interested in neither museum provision nor cultural development. The rebirth of the "City Hall Museum" was just a reactive response to the pressing public demand for a city hall, and the museum project was quite unplanned.

10. Wilson WONG, Hong Kong Baptist University

The Making of Contemporary Hong Kong Tea Culture: A Case Study of Jabbok Tea House

This paper seeks to trace the making Hong Kong Tea Culture with Jabbok Tea Shop (Arch, literally translated) as the objective of study. Historically, the emergence and changes in Hong Kong tea landscapes: tea house, tea room, tea restaurant, tea manor, tea café, tea stall, tea arch, Chinese restaurant, tea classroom represent the complex trans-cultural interaction and contemporary understanding of tea. I argue, in this paper, Jabbok Tea Shop (Jabbok, hereafter) helps demonstrate the institutionalization of tea culture by establishing the links among tea with the social, cultural, agricultural, media and educational sectors, aside from business. In turn, this helps provide insights on how the flowing shifts of private and public spaces with institutional force manifest historical meaning of tea culture in Hong Kong. By means of interview and newspapers with owner of Jabbok and newspapers about the tea landscapes of Hong Kong, as well as first hand ethnographic data with the social-historical practices initiated by Jabbok, this paper first outlines the historical development of tea landscape in Hong Kong, followed by the discussions of the institutionalization of tea culture akin to Jabbok since its opening in 1989. Finally, I will briefly discuss the influence aftermath of Jabbok in relation to the more recent development of tea landscape in Hong Kong including tea café and classroom.

11. Bobby TAM, The University of Hong Kong

A Cemetery of Our Own: Death Management and Identities in Colonial Hong Kong at the turn of the Twentieth Century, 1894 – 1913

At the end of the 19th century, Chinese elites in Hong Kong sought to emulate the status of European colonists in the issue of burial spaces. During the plague outbreak in 1894, some Chinese elites sided with the colonial heavy-handed sanitary intervention rather than the agitated Chinese masses. More Chinese elites tried to demonstrate their version of Chinese modernity by distinguishing themselves from the ‘backward’ Chinese masses. By proving to be ‘the better class of Chinese’ who were embracing modernity and contributing significantly to the colony, they succeeded in obtaining their own permanent cemetery and maintaining their death practices. Permanent burial spaces and autonomy in funerary practices also reaffirmed these Chinese elites to regard Hong Kong as their permanent home. Standing between European influences and Chinese culture also included the Eurasians and Chinese Christians. Like the Chinese elites, these groups sought for their own death spaces while tried to negotiate their identity and position in the colony.

This paper discusses the complex identities in Hong Kong at the turn of the century as reflected from issues of death management. I seek to go beyond the binary of European colonists and colonized Chinese through examining the hybridity in culture as well as illustrating social class distinction within the Chinese population.

12. Ryan SUN, The University of British Columbia

Photographing the Colony: Transnational Archives, Digital Tools, and the Dangers of Meta-Narratives

The image of present-day Hong Kong is one of skyscrapers dominating the cityscape, high-end fashion stores, and the bustling of people and cars – a testament to Hong Kong’s rapid industrialization. However, visitors and sojourners to the colony in the 1950s and 1960s experienced a physically different Hong Kong; one in which the process of modernization was only beginning, where the land reclamation projects had not yet occurred, and in the midst of Cold War tensions. It is in this Hong Kong that their photographs became housed in transnational archives and digitalized. Yet, it raises questions as to the politics behind the digitalization process. Centering on such photographs and deploying digital humanities methodologies, this paper explores the benefits and consequences of an interactive online and open-source map plotted with these scattered old photographs juxtaposed onto a map of contemporary Hong Kong which reveal new spatial and historical information. Throughout this paper, I argue that the possibilities brought about from the Digital Turn allows historians to engage beyond academia, but also raise the interconnect issues of what is lost from the historical process and how such digital tools run the risk of creating unintended meta-narratives.

13. Keith Ip, The University of Hong Kong

Tridentine Mission Strategy under the Portuguese Padroado

When the Catholic Church divided the world into two spheres of secular and religious influence after the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492, with Portugal controlling the trade routes and missions to the Far East and Spain controlling the areas west of the Atlantic Ocean, the Padroado (patronage) system was adopted to balance the competing interests of European imperial powers. Later, in response to the Reformation movement in Europe, the Council of Trent (1545-63) was convened to respond to the increasing challenges to the Catholic Church in Europe, but its decrees were also influenced by the new discoveries that had been made around the world over the previous fifty years. In this paper, I will examine the effectiveness of the Padroado system and the decrees of the Council of Trent in resolving the religious and secular issues that arose in the foreign mission territories in the sixteenth century, particularly with regard to the Portuguese missions in Macau and China.

14. Mark DODGE, SUNY Buffalo

The Barbarian's Wife

Colonialism has traditionally been framed in terms of the conflict between foreign imperialists and natives who chose either to resist or accommodate them. The case of the missionary George Leslie Mackay in Northern Formosa, offers a very different narrative. Mackay came to China in the late nineteenth-century intent on molding the Chinese into British subjects, but found that they had little interest in the things he hoped to teach. The Taiwanese already possessed a sophisticated civilization. The “modern” ideas Mackay brought were nothing new, they were merely different.

Never-the-less, the Taiwanese had many things they wanted to change, and saw Mackay as a potentially ally. Via the efforts of Tiun Chhang-mia, who married Mackay and helped him build 60 churches, 3 schools, and a hospital, the Taiwanese were able to redirect Mackay's efforts to help affect the changes they sought. Mackay's work was so changed by the Taiwanese people that his superiors in Canada thought he had gone crazy, and considered recalling him. Sections of the church boycotted the mission. Still, the mission succeeded, and he and his wife are honored as heroes of a cooperative modernity in Taiwan today.

15. Tim YUNG, The University of Hong Kong

One Bishop, Two Systems: Jumbled Jurisdictions in South China Anglicanism, 1899-1950

What does it mean to be both ‘Chinese’ and ‘Christian’? From even the first missionary encounter, Chinese Christianity was formed through Sino-foreign endeavour. To contribute to growing knowledge about this cross-cultural process, my communication examines church jurisdiction in South China within the Chinese Anglican Church (Chung Hua Sheng Kung Hui, hereafter CHSKH). When various missionary bishops came together in 1899 to map out the planned development of the CHSKH, the transfer of the Anglican Church from missionaries to indigenous Christians sounded like a straightforward journey. In practice, all fumbled across the turbulent first half of the twentieth century. Church Missionary Society (CMS) staff and CHSKH clergy struggled to define the nature of the South China Diocese in an increasingly connected and rapidly changing world. They grappled with questions about the scope of the Bishop of South China’s authority, the relationship with CMS London and Chinese national bodies, the integration of the English and Chinese congregations, and the ultimate purpose of the Diocese, among others. Ultimately, the experience of the CHSKH points toward bigger questions of transnationalism and World Christianity.

16. **Weiyang SUN**, The University of Melbourne

Culture, Civilisation, and Christianity: ‘Anti-Mission’ in Lord Salisbury’s Policy towards India

This research aims to explore the internal tensions of British imperialism by revealing the conflicts over the meanings and values of British civilising mission in India. It will examine the extent to which the ‘official mind’ in India – British government officials in India and in Britain, as well as Parliament – was in fact committed to the civilising mission, with a special emphasis on the differences between the Conservatives and Liberals by expounding the seemingly inconsistent and controversial policy of Lord Salisbury (Robert Arthur Talbot Gascoyne-Cecil, Third Marquess of Salisbury, Secretary of State for India, July 1866—March 1867, February 1874—March 1878) towards India. As Indian Secretary, Salisbury exerted an all-encompassing influence on British policy towards India. The cooperation and friction between Salisbury and the Viceroys of different parties provide one of the best opportunities to examine the paradoxes and tensions in British imperial policy towards India. The breadth of Salisbury’s understanding and the detail that he was able to absorb on a wide range of Indian and imperial issues at this time are valuable to the elucidation of the ‘anti-mission’ in British imperialism.

17. Jackie WANG, University of Hong Kong

Women's Economic Empowerment: The Formation of Elite Chinese Businesswomen in Modern China

This paper examines Chinese female business elites starting in the Republican era. It explores the factors and influences that shaped the careers of these Chinese businesswomen and will utilize American businesswomen as reference to understand the economic and societal forces behind their careers. In a country that now boasts the most self-made female entrepreneurs in the world, China has transformed economically as a nation. Few places in the world has seen such significant transformations, both in the transformation of the economy and the status of women. Much has been written on the mobilization of Chinese females in the labour force under Mao Zedong, with the historical narrative of women's mobilization in shaping state initiatives, revolutionary organizing, and Chinese modernity. However, little has been written on the emergent Chinese female business elites, mainly the entrepreneurs and business executives. These female business powerhouses merit close attention due to their prominence and the uniqueness of their experiences. By combining gender, business, and transnationalism, this paper explores the initial findings in the stories of highly influential women who took advantage of market opportunities and examines the common themes amongst their stories such as the role of family.

18. Lois Lu HAO, Northwestern University

Marrying for the Nation—American-Educated Chinese Women and their Domestic Professionalism, 1900-1930

As a prominent representative among American-educated Chinese women, Chen Hengzhe had a path of personal transformations resonating the currents of women's liberation in China: she was educated in Shanghai, then gained the opportunity to study abroad, which was previously reserved for men alone, and obtained degrees from Vassar College and the University of Chicago. When Chen was abroad, she and her peers bore a special responsibility to act as a model of well-learned, modern Chinese women and to contribute to nation-building upon their return—some, including Chen, even decided not to marry and devoted themselves fully to professional life. After they returned, however, most were eventually settled in marriage and domestic quarters and seemed to have “disappeared” from public eyes. With a focus on Chen, this paper examines these women's experiences in engaging cosmopolitanism while upholding a sense of “Chineseness” in their social life abroad, and in tailoring the rather individualistic ideal of “New Woman” from global feminist discourse into a nationalistic one for the Chinese context. It then unravels how the modern Chinese womanhood was shaped and public expectations of elite women shifted in a time of competing definitions and agendas for Chinese feminism and nationalism between the 1900s and 1920s.

19. Shuang WU, The University of Hong Kong / King's College London

Mothers Talk: Oral History and Motherhood in Hong Kong and the PRC, 1945-97

In Hong Kong the migrant experience has rarely been examined for what it can tell us about the social and cultural category and experience of motherhood. The Chinese Civil War (1945-9) precipitated a dramatic increase in the influx of migrants into Hong Kong. Amongst them many were mothers joining up with families in the Crown Colony, or were young women intended for betrothal to men who had already crossed the border. What role did motherhood play in the migrant experience? How did migration change these women's views of their status as mothers (or mothers-to-be), their opportunities and destinies? And what varieties of experience did the very term 'mother' obscure? This paper explores initial findings in the history of motherhood in post-war Hong Kong by drawing upon oral history materials. It focuses on the stories of women who 'acted' as mothers to children who were not their own, to women traumatised by the experience of downward social mobility and the perception of failing by their own, and others', standards to be 'good mothers.' The paper reflects on the value of oral history research in uncovering hidden histories of migration, ethnicity, community, and family. And it asks what the practice of crossing borders did to Chinese women's perceptions of motherhood as a source of authority.

20. Yuri DOOLAN, Northwestern University

The Problem of the "Mixed-Blood" Child: Camptown Women, Intercountry Adoption, and the First Generation of Korean Adoptees

Since the end of World War II, the US military has had, through the camptown sex industry, unfettered access to South Korean women's sexual labor. As thousands of mixed race children were born to Korean women and American military personnel, neither the U.S. military nor South Korean government had any plan for these children. Excluded from Korean citizenship due to Korean Family and Nationality Laws based on patrilineal bloodline, and restricted from immigration to the U.S. because of anti-Asian clauses in U.S. immigration law, these Amerasian children were initially unwanted by all parties involved.

In the early 1950s, a movement involving American social welfare professionals, religious and philanthropic organizations, and other private citizens to facilitate the adoption of these children into American families began. In the years between 1955 to 1966, nearly four thousand mixed race children were sent to the U.S. for adoption. In the years following, Koreans and Americans alike would continue to send mixed-race children to the U.S. en masse, separating thousands of children from Korean mothers (many of whom were coerced into adoption) and systematically exiling mixed-race persons from South Korea.

In this paper, I discuss the lives of the first-generation of Amerasians who were born in Korea during the immediate postwar years. What were the conditions in Korea and the camp towns that justified the placement of these children abroad? How did Americans, with their own domestic racial issues, justify placing Korean children in inter- and trans-racial families? What were the experiences of those individuals sent abroad? And those of children who were left behind in Korea? How might we link issues of sexual violence to those of reproductive justice as an American and international system based on the reproductive labor of camptown women grew and expanded in the postwar years.

21. T.C.A. ACHINTYA, The University of Delhi

Politics Great and Small: The Charter Act of 1813 and the Assertion of Sovereignty in India

The Charter Act of 1813 formally asserted British Sovereignty in India. It began a period which saw the British gradually doing away with the de-jure ambiguities of rule they had operated under, in India, in the previous century, a process which culminated with the final resolution of contradictions after the Great Revolt of 1857.

Historians have paid little attention to the timing of the assertion, and its underlying constitutive process, it looks at Britain's Parliament during the passage of the Act. This paper's aim is to correct for this and explore the underlying reasons for the assertion of Sovereignty in India.

The argument highlights the conjunction of macro- and micro- events in the legislative process. At the macro level, it discusses the global network of events influencing Parliament which in turn directly affected India. In combination with these, the paper also examines the personal interventions and agendas of specific people in the legislative process, contextualizing the importance of influential individuals in the larger narratives of history. This bridging of the grand global and societal sweeps of history with the actions, motivations and politics of individuals, can help historical analyses, especially with regard to the complexities of the reasons for the policies and actions of Empires and Colonial States.

22. Melody SHUM, Northwestern University

Legitimizing the Colonial State: The Police Mixte and the Policing of the Sino-Indochinese Borderlands (1896-1918)

The Police Mixte was a Franco-Chinese joint-institution established in 1896 to police the new “scientifically” demarcated borderline between China and Indochina. As a French-advocated institution aimed at solidifying French jurisdiction and territoriality that was greatly undermined by bandits, human traffickers, revolutionaries, and uncooperative Chinese officials, I argue that the Police Mixte was a “tool of empire,” a local institution mindful of the mechanisms necessary to enforce international bilateral agreements in a local, often multinormative context. The competition for authority in the borderlands predates the arrival of French imperialists. By examining the spaces on each side of the border as a single borderland through the daily operations of the Police Mixte, my paper breakaways from a nation-state/ diplomatic approach that often ignores the role of unrepresented states (Vietnam for instance) and non-state actors in contributing to the violence and volatility of the Sino-Indochinese borderlands. Utilizing mainly reports and correspondences from the French diplomatic and colonial archives as well as the Academia Sinica in Taiwan in conversation with the historiographies of China, Vietnam, and French Indochina, my paper tries to connect different scales of history through an international/ borderlands institution transfused by the very problems in which it was established to address.

23. David SAUNDERS, The University of Hong Kong

The Sound of Terror: Subversive Radio and Anti-Colonialism in North Borneo, 1963

One evening in early March 1963, an unsettling sound was projected across the airwaves over Borneo. Between 7:50 and 8:30pm, those who were tuned-in to the 25-metre band of short wavelength radio would have heard the first chilling broadcasts of a new radio station. It proclaimed to be anti-British, anti-colonial and vehemently anti-Malaysia. Its purpose, it declared, was to stand for the oppressed peoples of British Borneo. Days later, the radio station ran a series of threatening announcements, speeches and even poems inciting murder and violent rebellion. And so, 'The Voice of the Freedom Fighters of Kalimantan Utara' had come on the air.

The emergence of such clandestine radio offers a wealth of details about anti-colonialism within and beyond North Borneo. Using sources recently acquired from the Malaysian National Archives, I argue that the summer of 1963 was a period of great uncertainty for both the colonial regime and the various indigenous communities across North Borneo. This uncertainty contrasts with the official narrative of steadily controlled imperial withdrawal. Fears about what was emanating from the 'jungle' took a drastic turn with the advent of subversive 'black radio,' whilst also alluding to longstanding colonial anxieties about governing the uncharted hinterlands.

24. Dong Kue LEE, The University of Hong Kong

Feeding Human Rights: Daniel Moynihan, the Indian Famine, and Transformation of Economic and Social Rights (1968-1976)

This paper explores the intellectual interaction between human rights and international social and economic issues. A transition in international politics occurred in the 1960s and 1970s—also called “the long 1970s”—when individual and neoliberal policies replaced the previous collective-oriented socioeconomic interests and prolonged welfare policies. This transformation effectively led to a strong influence across both national boundaries and racial and ethnic divisions with distinct ideas about issues such as economic development, food supplies, poverty, and resources. In this research, I will show how the rise of human-rights concerns in considerations of global food problems resulted from a balance between the state and the market as well as from structural adjustments in the developing world. The concept of human rights was powerful and, more importantly, pervasive, and it transformed or subsumed previously disregarded ideas across international society. By looking at pertinent records, I will pay attention to an important figure in the history of human rights and international affairs, Daniel Patrick Moynihan. In the mid-1970s, Moynihan was in a peculiar position, as he served as the U.S. ambassador in New Delhi and later the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. When he left these positions to serve as a U.S. senator from New York, he took with him a number of vital observations he had made about how human rights applies to social and economic issues, involving food aids. The changes he contributed to in this period were based on individual incidents but were part of a collaboration on human rights, which contradicted the premises of previous eras regarding the politics of food in the Third World.

25. Jie NI, University of Tokyo

Hong Kong's Protect Tiao Yu Tai Movement in early 1970's a comparative study on Chinese students in Hong Kong and North America

To protest the action of The United States trying to return Tiao Yu Tai Islands to Japan together with the reversion of Okinawa, patriotic Chinese living in North America, Taiwan, Hong Kong as well as Europe staged large-scale Protect Tiao Yu Tai Movements in the early 1970s. This paper will focus on the movement organized in Hong Kong and give a comparison of the movement in Hong Kong and other areas. Hong Kong's movement was significantly effected by that in North America and mainly organized by three prominent youth groups which are recognized as people working for the 70's Bi-Weekly magazine, "The Hong Kong Protection of Tiao Yu Tai Action Committee" and "Hong Kong Federation of Students". On 7 July 1971, this movement reached a climax when the activists clashed with the police, greatly attracting attention from the public in Hong Kong.

This paper will firstly explore the background of the three leading groups as well as their activities in the movement, with the aim of investigating the development of the movement in Hong Kong (1971-1972). Also, by portraying the process of this movement spreading from North America to Hong Kong and other areas, this paper will then examine the shaping of the network of Chinese students living in Hong Kong, Taiwan and America. To explore the movement objectively, this paper will plunge into the archives collected by the government and collect materials left with the activists. By doing so, this paper will then expound the tide of "be acquainted with China, be concerned about Hong Kong society"(認識中國，關心社會) in Hong Kong followed by this movement. The transformation of young students' perceptions of China, as well as the view and response of the government will be analyzed in this paper. To differ from the prior papers on this topic, this paper will also lay an emphasis on the distinctions of the perceptions of China among Chinese people living in Hong Kong and other areas.

26. Mia Martin HOBBS, The University of Hong Kong

Vietnam's 'national policy' of forgiveness: American veterans and healing-through-reconciliation, 1980-2016

Since 1981, American veterans have returned to Viet Nam on journeys of reconciliation and atonement. The Vietnamese government responded to these journeys by welcoming veterans back, offering friendship and solidarity through a 'national policy' of forgiveness. Veterans widely reported feeling healed by these experiences, and international media coverage of returning veterans fixated on their trauma, atonement, and healing in Vietnam. A narrative of healing-through-reconciliation became embedded in US-Vietnam relations. Drawing on oral histories with returning veterans and on media discourses in America and Vietnam, this paper will explore how the narrative of healing-through-reconciliation gradually reframed the space of Vietnam as the 'scene of the crime' in the Western imagination; as a therapeutic space first and a country second. This paper will show how the healing of American veterans reduced the Vietnamese to the 'forgivers', erasing their experiences and pain. Some veterans expected unconditional acceptance from Vietnamese survivors, while others challenged the forgiveness extended to them. Finally, this paper will show how the healing-through-reconciliation narrative became an effective method of silencing Vietnamese dissent and critique of US-Vietnam relations.

Keynote Speaker: Prof. Anthony REID

Cosmopolis and Vernacular: Competing impulses in Asian history

The competing impulses of globalization (or “transnationalism”) and local reactions against it appear to dominate our contemporary world. Understanding the past ebb and flow of these impulses in Asia may help us better understand where we stand today. Do Trump, Putin and Brexit represent a 21st century trend, or are they merely last-gasp reactions against the irresistible pressures of convergence?

This lecture will seek to show that Asia has seen several phases of globalization/transnationalism, which, following Sheldon Pollock’s ‘Sanskrit cosmopolis’, I will characterize as cosmopolis or cosmopolitanism. Such globalizing impulses tend to be followed by major cultural swings in the other direction, which I will call vernacularization, when the foreign ideologies and technologies are tamed and limited, creating new hybrid ‘traditions’. The globalizing impulse which I have labeled the ‘Age of Commerce’ for Southeast Asia, gave way to a particularly marked vernacularization (17th-19th centuries) when the national cultures of that region were formed. This pattern has some resonance also in Northeast Asia. From the late 19th century, in both cases, a new impulse became irresistible. We tend to call it modernity, through which we all came to dress alike and adopt the same technologies, with similar values and popular cultures. What next?