

2019年10月

関係者各位

大阪大学西洋史研究室は、ロンドン大学のジャヤスリヤ博士をお招きして、下記のような研究会を開催することとなりました。皆様のご参加をお願いいたします。

On the 23 October, the department of western history will hold a seminar on history of Afro-Asians by inviting Dr Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya, School of Advanced Study, University of London. We invite everyone who is interested in the subject.

記

日時 2019年10月23日(水) 13時~14時30分

Date : 23 October 2019 13:00-14:30

会場 大阪大学 文学研究科本館 大会議室

Venu: Big Chamber, Graduate School of Letters, Osaka University

報告タイトル 「アフリカ系アジア人の出現—忘れられた歴史—」

Title of the paper “Emerging Afro-Asians: Forgotten Histories”

報告者 シーハン・デ・シルヴァ・ジャヤスリヤ博士 ロンドン大学

Dr Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya, School of Advanced Study, University of London

なお、本研究会への参加につきましては、事前登録、参加費などは必要ありません。また、研究報告および討論は英語で行われます。

Pre-registration and participation fees are not required. Major speech and discussions will be conducted in English.

“Emerging Afro-Asians: Forgotten Histories”

Dr Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya  
School of Advanced Study  
University of London  
E-mail: shihan.desilva@sas.ac.uk

Abstract

The Indian Ocean, a web of socioeconomic and political networks connecting a vast area from southern Africa to China, incorporating the Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Australia is densely populated and holds fifty per cent of the world's population. African movement to Asia, both traversing land and sea, mainly through the Middle East and across the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean exposed migrants to a wide cultural spectrum. Transoceanic trade networks impinged on the forced movement of Africans. The Atlantic was also a source of labour supply for Asian colonial outposts. Were the demands for Africans driven solely by the need for labour? What was the trade-off in moving Africans across vast distances? In Asia, Africans rose to unexpected heights commanding respect and authority. Acculturation en route and in the Asian countries that they were settled in, played a significant part in concealing their African origins. What facilitated processes of transculturation? The contemporary Afro-diasporic presence in Asia is barely recognised and Afrodescendants are lost in the diversity of Asia's

cosmopolitan cities or hidden in its hinterlands. Moreover, postcolonial dynamics exacerbated marginalisation of Afrodescendants. Their disadvantaged status has been partially acknowledged and some Afrodescendants are marked out for empowerment. This presentation highlights the agency of Afrodescendants in empowering themselves and negotiating new identities. By next year (2020), the Indian Ocean region is predicted to become the leader in the world economy. As important actors in the region engage in strengthening their cross-continental networks, their past histories become significant. African diasporas are usually viewed through the lens of the transatlantic slave trade. An understanding of the drivers of African movement eastwards and the status of Afro-Asians throughout space and time enhances the characterization of the global African diaspora.

### **Dr. Shihan de Silva Jayasiria**

Dr Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya is a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London. She is an elected Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society (Great Britain & Ireland). She is an international collaborator with the University of Graz (Austria) on the Hugo Schuchardt Project concerning manuscripts of the Father of Creole Languages. She is also collaborating on a History on Film programme, with the School of Oriental & African Studies (University of London), in an effort to eliminate the biases in the study of the slave trade and slavery. She is a founder of the Centre for Slavery and Indenture (University of Mauritius). She is leading the Portuguese programme of a World Bank Project on "Discourse Communities" for the University of Kelaniya (Sri Lanka). Prior to her PhD in Linguistics, Shihan de Silva graduated from the University of London with a BSc Honours in Economics and an MSc in Finance. She is also a concert pianist and holds a Diploma in Pianoforte Performance from the London College of Music/University of West London. She was a member of the International Scientific Committee (Paris) of the UNESCO Slave Route Project where she served in the Bureau representing Asia and was also elected the Rapporteur of the Project. She has now been invited to contribute articles for UNESCO's General History of Africa (Volume 9). Shihan has been the Guest Editor for several international academic journals: African and Asian Studies (Leiden, Netherlands), *Músike* (The Hague, Netherlands), *Cahiers des Anneaux de la Mémoire* (Nantes, France) and the *Journal of African Diaspora Archaeology and Heritage* (Maney Publishing: UK). She serves on the editorial boards of *African Diaspora and Transnationalism* (Leiden, Netherlands) and the *Journal of African Diaspora Archaeology and Heritage* (Maney Publishing: UK). Her publications include numerous peer-reviewed articles in international journals, six monographs and two edited volumes. Recently, she has directed and produced two ethnographic films on African Migrants in the Indian Ocean World – "Voices of Afro-Sri Lankans" and "Indian Ocean Memories and African Migrants".