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UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI URBINO  
CARLO BO

**aegis** | African Studies  
in Europe



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Centro de Estudos  
Internacionais

5th AEGIS Thematic Conference  
of the Collaborative Research Group  
Africa in the Indian Ocean

***A Passage to/from Africa***

*Rythmic exchanges in the Western Indian Ocean*



Urbino, 4-6 April 2024

*Organised by*  
Francesca Declich & Manuel Ramos

5th AEGIS Thematic Conference

of the Collaborative Research Group Africa in the Indian Ocean

**A Passage to/from Africa:  
rhythmic exchanges in the Western Indian Ocean**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAM**

Venue: Aula Magna del Rettorato – Palazzo Bonaventura, via Saffi 2

**DAY ONE – 4 APRIL**

9.00 - 9.30 Introduction by Francesca Declich

Greetings of prof. Giorgio Calcagnini - Rector of the University of Urbino

Greetings of prof. Giovanni Boccia Artieri - DISCUI Department Director

**Panel 1 : 9.30 -11.15 (Anthropology)**

Chair: Francesca Declich (Università degli Studi di Urbino)

- Iain Walker (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology): *On Being servile in Ngazidja*
- Daniela Waldburger (University of Vienna): *Violence on Mayotte – the role of languages on a multilingual island in the EU*
- Safia Ally Msami (University of California, Irvine): *Haba na Haba Hujaza Kibaba: A Sartorial Look into the Afterlives of Swahili Daughters on the East African Coast*
- Gill Shepherd (London School of Economics and Political Science) : *Using alliance and genealogy to conduct trade*

**COFFEE BREAK (offered)** – first floor Via Saffi, 42 (front of blue room)

**Panel 2 : 11.45-13.30 (History)**

Chair: Iain Walker (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology)

- Manuel Ramos (CEI-ISCTE, Lisboa): *Gone with the Monsoon: notes on the history of Christianity in the Indian Ocean*
- Matteo Salvatore (American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates): *Enslaved Ethiopians in the Western Indian Ocean: Evidence from the Portuguese Inquisition*
- Hideaki Suzuki (National Museum of Ethnology, Japan): *Uniqueness of East Africa, Similarity of the Western Indian Ocean: A Case Study of Mangrove Poles*
- Wolbert Smidt (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena): *Ancient traders' networks in the northern Ethiopian highlands and the Afar lowlands: trade routes and their communities*

## TIME OFF FOR LUNCH

**Panel 3** : 14.30 -16.15 (Global colonisation)  
Chair: Gill Shepherd (London School of Economics)

- Erika Mattio (University Complutense of Madrid/ University Bicocca of Milano): *Salt, lithium and ships*
- Diana Stoica (West University of Timisoara, Romania): *Eastern African land-transportation and the challenges to Afro-globalization. Reflections on the case of Tanzania and Mozambique*
- Raffaele Maddaluno (La Sapienza University, Rome): *The oceanic rhythms of resistance and transformation in the Comoros islands. Challenges and potentialities beyond Blue Economy policies*
- Barbara De Poli (Ca' Foscari University): *New Cultural Transfers in the Zanzibar Archipelago: The Italians in Unguja (1990 – 2024)*

**COFFEE BREAK (offered)** - first floor Via Saffi, 42 (front of blue room)

**Panel 4** : 16.45-18.30 (Religions)  
Chair: Giorgio Banti (University of Naples "L'Orientale"/  
ISMEO - International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies)

- Preben Kaarsholm (Roskilde University, Denmark): *Rhythmic exchanges between religion and culture: Sufi ritual encounters in KwaZulu-Natal and Northern Mozambique*
- Saada Wahab (The State University of Zanzibar): *Diversification of religious Practice and their Migration Trajectories among the Indians in Zanzibar*
- Tanvi Kapoor (New York University): *Mourning as Devotion: The Uncanny Shi'i Mosque in Zanzibar*
- Martinho Pedro (Universidade Pedagógica de Maputo, Moçambique): *Da confluência de sistemas religiosos antagónicos à paradoxal formação de um comunitarismo local até 1920 no Canal de Moçambique Ocidental*

## DAY TWO - 5 APRIL

**Panel 5** – 9.00-10.45 (Arts, literature, music)  
Chair: Manuel Ramos (CEI-ISCTE, Lisboa)

- Silvia Neposteri (Università di Pavia): *A crossroads of cultures. The sorabe manuscript tradition in the South-East Malagasy coast*
- Dyoniz Kindata (Leuphana Universität Lüneburg, Germany): *Rhymes of Empire Building and African World Making: Poetry and Print in Kiongozi Newspaper in German East Africa 1885-1918*
- Jasmin Mahazi (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient, Germany): *Bahari yetu na mahadhi yake – Our ocean/genre and its rhythms*
- Ellen Hebden (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA): *Feminine Beauty, Strategic Mobilities and the Expansion of Tufo Dancing in Mozambique*

**COFFEE BREAK (offered)** - first floor Via Saffi, 42 (front of blue room)

**Panel 6 : 11.15-12.45 (Mobilities & colonial times)**

Chair: Beatrice Nicolini (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano)

- Catherine Odari (Spelman College, Georgia): *Re-examining the Colonial Times: The Role of Indians and Indian-Owned Newspapers in the Reinterpretation of the Kenyan Anti-Colonial Struggle.*
- Hatice Ugur (Marmara University, Turkey): *From Italy to Zanzibar: The Trans local Network of an Anarchist in 1905*
- Maïlys Chauvin (LAM-CNRS Sciences Po Bordeaux): *Return mobilities of Zanzibar exiles in the 2010s and the reshaping of a common world*

**TIME OFF FOR LUNCH**

**Panel 7 : 14.15-16.00 (Archaeology)**

Chair: Behnaz Mirzai (Brock University, Canada)

- Stefania Manfio (Stanford University): *Maritime archaeology and slave shipwrecks in Mauritius*
- Martin Kijava (Independent researcher, Dar es Salaam): *Dissecting Restoration-Interpretation of Kunduchi Ruins*
- Celso Simbine, C ezar Mahumane and Hil ario Madiquida (Eduardo Mondlane University): *The Archaeology of Trade on Mozambique Island, CE 1100 – 1800*
- David Maina Muthegethi (Kenyatta University, Kenya): *Women Artisans: New Frontiers of gendered spaces in Gedi City State*

**COFFEE BREAK (offered)**

First floor Via Saffi, 42 (front of blue room)

**Panel 8: 16.30 -18.15 (Anthropology/Religions)**

Chair: TBA

- Behnaz Mirzai (Brock University, Canada): *African Healing and Cultural Traditions in the Persian Gulf Region*
- Zahir Bhalloo (University of Hamburg): *From Bushehr to Zanzibar: Shi'i Ritual Mobility and Rhythmic Exchange in the Western Indian Ocean*
- Salvatory S. Nyanto (University of Dar Es Salaam), *Dances, Patronage and Belonging in Post-Abolition Unyamwezi, Western Tanzania*
- Stephen Okumu Ombere (Maseno University, Kenya): *We are still a kinship: Designing relatedness among migrating fishermen in Coastal Kenya*

**SOCIAL DINNER (offered)**

Piazza della Repubblica - Collegio Raffaello (La cucina di Taty)

## DAY THREE - 6 APRIL

**Panel 8** – 9.00-10.45 (History/Anthropology)

Chair: Preben Kaarsholm (Roskilde University, Denmark)

- Beatrice Nicolini (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano): *The Epistolary Intrigues of Napoleon: Unraveling Anglo-French Rivalry in the Gulf and Indian Ocean*
- Abdelhakim Belhacel (Université Paris Nanterre): *Understanding the Omani rule in East Africa in the 19th Century through the monsoon system*
- Samson Peter Malekela (Stella Maris Mtwara University College, Tanzania): *Slave trade and slavery in 19th century towns of Mgao and Mikindani in southeastern Tanganyika: resistance, agency and memories*
- Marie-Pierre Ballarin e Hervé Pennec (Université Côte d'Azur, Urmis; CNRS, GIS Études Africaines, IMAf): *Slavery and Post-slavery in African Indian Ocean Island Societies: current state of research*

### TIME OFF for a COFFEE at a bar

**Panel 9** – 11.15-13.00 (Representations)

Chair: TBA

- Elcídio Rui Macuácuá, (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Eduardo Mondlane University) : *Cultural Connections and Identity in the Indian Ocean between Macuas on the Mozambique Island and Mayotte*
- Rufus Maculuve (independent researcher/ Artist, Maputo, Mozambique): *A sonic approach to vernacular archives and cultural memory of the fishing communities of Mozambique Island*
- Patrícia Ferraz de Matos (Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal): *Fluid like water: histories, representations and current challenges in the relations between Macau (China) and the (Lusophone) world*
- Ute Fendler (University of Bayreuth): *Oceanic Artists: polyrhythmic passages across the Indian Ocean*

### TIME OFF FOR LUNCH

Saturday afternoon 14.30: Visit to Ducal Palace

Meeting in front of the main entrance h 14.20

Silvia Cirillo: [silvia.cirillo@uniurb.it](mailto:silvia.cirillo@uniurb.it)

Lucas Iannuzzi: [lucas.iannuzzi@uniurb.it](mailto:lucas.iannuzzi@uniurb.it)

Abdallah Ounour Hassan Ounour: [a.ounour@campus.uniurb.it](mailto:a.ounour@campus.uniurb.it)

For any question, difficulty or comment please feel free to contact us.