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CROSSROADS ASIA

Conflict · Migration · Development

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Highlights

Crossroads Asia Conference "Mobilizing Religion - Networks and Mobility" planned for July

Preparations for the second major Crossroads Asia conference are underway, following the deadline for submission of abstracts this month. The conference, to be held July 18-19, at the Institute for Oriental and Asian Studies, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Bonn, will focus on the nexus of religion and mobility - social, spatial and mental. From a range of disciplinary perspectives, research presented will assess in particular the role of religion as a mobilizing factor in conflicts, as symbolic capital in network exchanges and in translocal figurations, as well as its influence on perceptions of "migration", "belonging" and "home". For further information please contact Elena Smolarz.

C. Schetter Assumes Position of Director for Research at BICC

As of March 2013 Conrad Schetter has left his position as Acting Director of ZEF's Department of Political and Cultural Change to lead BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion), a position linked to a professorship at the University of Bonn. He will remain active in the Crossroads Asia competence network and further coordinate the Conflict Working Group.

Crossroads Asia Publications

» Local Politics in Afghanistan - A Century of Intervention in the Social Order, edited by Conrad Schetter, has been published by Hurst & Company in London. The volume sheds light on the complexities of local politics in Afghanistan, and includes contributions by network members Ingeborg Baldauf, Katja Mielke and Andreas Wilde.

» The current issue of the journal Internationales Asienforum (Vol. 43, Issue 3-4) features three articles by network members: Anna-Katharina Hornidge, Hermann Kreutzmann and Andreas Benz. See p. 2 for details.

Activities in the Network

Upcoming Crossroads Asia Lectures

Schoeberlein, J.: "Islam and Secular Sensibilities in Post-Soviet Eurasia", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin, 2 May 2013.

Loy, T.: "The Long Journey. Geographic and Social Mobility along the Example of Bukharan Jews in the 20th Century", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, ZEF Bonn, 22 May 2013.

Behal, R.: "Migration flows in colonial plantation economies: moving labour in British Imperial Asia", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, ZELF, Campus Lankwitz FU Berlin, 11 June 2013.

Houben, V.: "Space, Area Studies and Southeast Asia", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, ZEF Bonn, 12 June 2013.

Behal, R.: "Coolies, Recruiters and Planters: Migration of Indian Labour to the Southeast Asian and Assam plantations during colonial rule", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, ZELF, Campus Lankwitz FU Berlin, 18 June 2013.

Ilkhamov, A.: "The contemporary Uzbek nation-state and national identity: Soviet legacy and post-socialist developments", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, ZEF Bonn, 3 July 2013.

Upcoming Crossroads Asia Workshops and Conferences

Crossroads Asia Workshop: "Tracing Connections: Explorations of Place and Spaces in Asian Multilocalities", to be held **June 20-21**, at Centre for Development Studies (ZELF), Room G110, Campus Lankwitz FU Berlin. For details, please see the workshop poster or contact Henryk Alff and Andreas Benz. With planned presentations as follows:

» **Boedeker, J.**: "Reframing Social Spaces: Examples of Baloch Social Practices at the Political Boundaries of States",

» **Durdu, A.**: "The Hotal institution in Mazar-e Sharif",

» **Ismailbekova, A.**: "Urban space of Osh: Multilocal Networks in the Context of Migration and Post-Conflict Situation",

» **Mato Bouzas, A.**: "Moving Borders and retaining orders in the Baltistan-Ladakh region".

Joint Workshop of the Competence Networks Latin America and Crossroads: "Social Mobilization, Migration and Citizenship", 17 July 2013, ZEF Bonn. View the program here. Contact: Sarah Albiez-Wieck and Anna-Katharina Hornidge.

Internal Crossroads Asia Workshop: Area Studies Workshop, 20 July 2013, ZEF Bonn.

Past Crossroads Asia Lectures

Schoeberlein, J.: "The Changing Landscape of Central Asian Studies", Crossroads Asia Lecture, HU Berlin, 29 April 2013.

Rauch, T.: "Geographische Entwicklungsforschung: Multi-dimensionale Perspektive versus Anpassung an sozialwissenschaftliche Modewellen - das Beispiel der Dialektik zwischen Weltagrarmärkten und Rural Livelihoods", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, FU Berlin, 16 April 2013.

Keller, R.: "Analysing Discourses. Relevance, Possibilities and Limitations of Researching Discourses", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, ZEF Bonn, 27 February 2013.

Engel, U.: "Critical Junctures of Globalization and the Area Studies", Crossroads Asia Lecture Series, ZEF Bonn, 6 February 2013.

Recent Publications

Baldauf, I. (2013): Perspectives, Aspirations and Constraints: How to do Politics in Off-Centre Afghanistan. In: C. Schetter (Ed.): Local Politics in Afghanistan. A Century of Intervention in the Social Order. London/ New York: Hurst and Columbia University Press, 163-176.

Benz, A. (2012): The Crisis of School Education in Pakistan: Of Government's Failure and New Hopes in the Growing Private Education Sector. In: Internationales Asienforum 43 (3-4), 223-244.

Hornidge, A.-K., Tischbein, B. & Lamers, J. (2013): Ökonomische und ökologische Umstrukturierung in der Region Khorezm (Usbekistan) – Ein Pilotprojekt in der Entwicklungsforschung. In: R. Ibisch, S. Krischke, C. Stärz & D. Borchardt (eds.): IWRM – Integriertes Wasserressourcen-Management: Von der Forschung zur Umsetzung. Leipzig: Helmholtz-Zentrum für Umweltforschung, 39-41.

Ismailbekova, A. (2013): Coping strategies: public avoidance, migration, and marriage in the aftermath of the Osh conflict, Fergana Valley. Nationalities Papers: The Journal of Nationalism and Ethnicity 41 (1), 9-127.

Kreutzmann, H. (2012): Modernisierung um jeden Preis? Modernisierungsansätze und Folgewirkungen in Chinas fernem Westen. In: Geographische Revue 14 (2), 53-70.

Kreutzmann, H. (2013): The tragedy of responsibility in High Asia: modernizing traditional pastoral practices and preserving modernist worldviews. In: Pastoralism: Research, Policy and Practice 3 (7), 11.

Mielke, K. (2013): Constructing the Image of a State: Local Realities and International Intervention in North-East Afghanistan. In: C. Schetter (Ed.): Local Politics in Afghanistan. A Century of Intervention in the Social Order. London/New York: Hurst and Columbia University Press, 245-263.

Reetz, D. (2013): (1) Barelwi movement. (2) Deobandi movement. In: G. Bowering, P. Crone, W. Kadi, D. J. Stewart & M. Qasim Zaman (eds.): The Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 64-65; 131-132.

Upcoming

2nd Crossroads Conference: Mobilizing Religion: Networks and Mobility

organised by the Institute for Oriental and Asian Studies, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Bonn. Contact: Elena Smolarz.

July 18-19, 2013 at IOA Bonn, Germany.

Reetz, D. (2012): (1) La Yamaat al-Tabligh. (2) Laicidad y devoción: la Yamaat al-Tabligh en Francia. In: F. Peter & R. Ortega (eds.): Los movimientos islámicos transnacionales: y la emergencia de un «islam europeo». Barcelona: Bellaterra, 57-66; 263-66 (English: (1) Tablīghī Jamā'at. (2) Laïcité and Devotion - The Tablīghī Jamā'at in France. In: F. Peter & R. Ortega (eds.): The transnational Islamic movements: the emergence of a "European Islam").

Schütte, S. & Kreutzmann, H. (2012): Social vulnerability in Sindh - recent floods as amplifiers of social crisis in Pakistan. In: Internationales Asienforum 43 (3-4), 13-32.

Shtaltovna, A., van Assche, K. & Hornidge, A.-K. (2012): Where Did This Debt Come from? Organizational Change, Role Ambiguity and Development in Rural Khorezm, Uzbekistan, In: Internationales Asienforum 43 (3-4), 179- 197.

Wilde, A. (2013): The Consistency of Patronage. Networks and Powerbrokers of the 'Arzbegi Clan' in Kunduz. In: C. Schetter (Ed.): Local Politics in Afghanistan. A Century of Intervention in the Social Order. London/ New York: Hurst & Columbia University Press, 58-72.

Upcoming Lectures and Presentations

Kreutzmann, H. & Watanabe T.: "Changing mountain communities and environments in the Pamirs" as a part of the session "Mountain response to global change" at IGU regional conference, Kyoto (Japan), 4-9 August 2013.

Nadjmabadi, S.: "The Development Discourse in Post-Revolutionary Iran", ESSA, ETAP & GAE, ZEF, Bonn, 13-14 June 2013.

Reetz, D.: "Travelling Traditions and the Pluralisation of Muslim Identities in Asia, South East Asia and beyond", ZMO Institutional Panels at International Conference of Asian Scholars 8, Macao (China), 24-27 June 2013.

Rzehak, L.: Lecture "Ethnologische Forschungen in Afghanistan", as part of the lecture series "Welten der Muslime. Vorstellung und Wirklichkeit in Zentralasien" organized by the Akademie der Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin, Ethnologisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem, 16 June 2013.

Sökefeld, M.: "A province, finally? Gilgit-Baltistan after the 2009 reforms", at the Pakistan Workshop "Rook How" (UK), 10-12 May 2013.

Wenzel, C: "Peoples' Mobility between Urbanization and Forced Migration. Observations from Afghan Urban Space", at Workshop: "Tracing Migration and Global Connectedness – Urban Contexts in Central Asia and Beyond", HU Berlin, 30-31 May 2013.

Wilde, A.: Lecture "Afghanistan abseits der großen Weltbühne: Die Herrschaft der Koranschüler in den 1990er Jahren", in the context of the program "Krisenherd am Hindukusch – Afghanistan als Spielball der Großmächte", Fridtjof-Nansen-Akademie für politische Bildung, Ingelheim, 25-26 June 2013.

Conference

32ND Deutscher Orientalistentag 2013

Since 1921 the Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft has been conducting the Deutsche Orientalistentag, where renowned academics of Oriental Studies from all over the world engage with one another in interdisciplinary workshops and panels. Registration will be open until May 31, 2013. Please visit the homepage for details, including panel topics.

November 21-23, 2013 at Westfälische Wilhems-Universität Münster, Germany.

Past Lectures and Presentations

Grieser, A.: "Mobilizing Water - Water appropriation in Gilgit, Gilgit-Baltistan". Presentation at the Conference "Asian Ecologies: Capitalism, Modernity and the Environment", at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Lahore (Pakistan), 5-7 April 2013.

Hill, J.: Presentations "Hybrid rice as silver bullet? Rice cultivation in India and the geographical rescaling of seed production and control", and "Encountering modernity: Mountain communities, irrigated agriculture and development trajectories in the valleys of the Pamir, Karakoram and trans-Himalaya", at the Conference "Asian Ecologies: Capitalism, Modernity and the Environment". LUMS Lahore (Pakistan), 5-7 April 2013.

Kreutzmann, H.: "Bewässerung in Zentralasien: Wassermanagement im Fergana-Becken" at Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften. Held by the Interdisciplinary Working Group Society – Technology – Water (Interdisziplinäre Arbeitsgruppe Gesellschaft – Wasser – Technik), Berlin, 18 February 2013.

Kreutzmann, H.: "The tragedy of responsibility: High Asian pastoral practices in transition" at the workshop "Hochgebirge im Globalen Wandel", held by the Working Group on High Mountain Regions (Arbeitskreis Hochgebirge), Bonn, 2 March 2013.

Kreutzmann, H.: "Challenges for interdisciplinary research in Central Asia", keynote at the workshop "Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment", sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation, Tiblisi (Georgia), 9 March 2013.

Kreutzmann, H.: "Adaptation to changing environments in the Himalayas: Hindukush - Pamir – Karakoram' and 'Water towers of humankind in High Asia." Two lectures at the Royal University of Bhutan, Institute of Language and Culture Studies, Taktse/Trongsa (Bhutan), 5-11 April 2013.

Rzehak, L.: "Dari folklore in Afghanistan", Workshop, HU Berlin, 12-13 March 2013.

Rzehak, L.: "Theory and Practice of Translation with the Language Pair Tajik and German", Workshop, Dushanbe (Tajikistan). 25 February-2 March 2013.

Schetter, C.: Lecture "Zur Bedeutung von Grenzen für die Sicherung des Friedens", Kolloquium: Frieden und Grenzen: Herausforderungen für die Friedens- und Konfliktforschung, Akademie für politische Bildung, Tutzing, 2 March 2013.

Interviews

Reetz, D.: TV Interview for the show „Forum am Freitag"-Magazin on ZDF.Info concerning Ahmadiyya, 29 March 2013, available in the ZDF Mediathek here.

Save the Date

Conference: "Agricultural Knowledge and Knowledge Systems in Post-Soviet Societies"

Conference themes include cultures of knowledge production and sharing in agriculture, local governance, processes shaping as well as being shaped by the prevalent epistemic cultures and ongoing debates on the further development of agricultural advisory services undergoing change. Please contact Anastasiya Shtaltovna (ZEF Bonn) for details.

September 11-13, 2013 at ZEF in Bonn, Germany.

Crossroads Asia - BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The competence network *Crossroads Asia* derives its name from the geographical area extending from eastern Iran to western China and from the Aral Sea to northern India. The scholars collaborating in the competence network pursue a novel, 'post-area studies' approach, making thematic figurations and mobility the overarching perspectives of their research in *Crossroads Asia*. The concept of figuration implies that changes, minor or major, within one element of a constellation always affect the constellation as a whole; the network will test the value of this concept for understanding the complex structures framed by the cultural, political and socio-economic contexts in *Crossroads Asia*. Mobility, the other key concept for studying *Crossroads Asia*, has always been a space of entangled interaction and communication, with human beings, ideas and commodities on the move across and beyond cultural, social and political borders. Figurations and mobility thus form the analytical frame of all three main thematic foci of our research: conflict, migration, and development.

Funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the *Crossroads Asia* competence network was established in spring of 2011. It aims to mediate between the academic study of *Crossroads Asia* and efforts to meet the high demand for information on this area in politics and the public. Findings of the project will feed into academic teaching, research outside the limits of the competence network, and public relations efforts. Further information on *Crossroads Asia* is available at www.crossroads-asia.de.

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