

Colonial Cities in Global Perspective

An International Conference of The Global History Network
in Saint-Louis, Senegal

December 10-12, 2018



Introduction

For over four centuries, the colonial city served as interface between imperial powers and the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. It functioned as fortified outpost, administrative center, trading portal, in some cases as collection point for the overseas shipment of slaves, and always as a site of cross-cultural learning and experience. Coastal colonial cities exhibited tremendous diversity as well as common traits, shaped by the interaction among imperial governors and merchants, colonial capitalists and peasant laborers in their agrarian hinterlands, indigenous and immigrant populations, and highly variegated and challenging physical environments. In many ways, their global role anticipated the role that urban theory has established for the contemporary global city – both as the market and industrial pole for a rural hinterland, and as a site in an archipelago of cosmopolitan entrepôts linked with their metropolises and developing a unique fusion of services and clientele.

This conference aims to examine colonial cities in a comparative framework. Papers treat themes such as patterns of settlement and spatial organization; administration, policing, sanitation, and evolving economic profiles; labor and workers' collective action; colonial cities' position in global trade networks and their importance to the expansion of capitalism; trade links between urban and rural domains of production and consumption; formal and informal relations between ethnic communities; patterns of leadership and urban organization; distinctive cultural production; and historical legacies for post-colonial states.

Taking a plural outlook on these colonial cities and putting their trajectory back within the dynamics of a world that is constantly experiencing rapid transformation, this conference objective is to use the major lessons from history to rethink the future of these historical colonial cities.

It is our wish to see all the participants contributing to realize this conference objective

Conference location : The Centre de recherche and documentation of Senegal, University Gaston Berger of Saint-Louis, Southern Point of Saint-Louis Island's

This conference was made possible by the generous funding and support of the Volkswagen Foundation, the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris, the FASTER Department of History and Geography at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal, the University Gaston Berger of Saint-Louis and the Centre de Recherche et de Documentation du Sénégal.. It is part of a series of academic initiatives of the Global History Network, which is comprised of global history institutions including East China Normal University in Shanghai, the International Institute of Social History in the Netherlands, LabMundi at the University of São Paulo in Brazil, the Department of History at the University of Delhi in India, the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History at Harvard University, the Cheikh Anta Diop University in Senegal, and the University of Göttingen in Germany

Monday, December 10, 2018

- 9:00-10:00 **Inaugural Session:**
Fatima Fall, Director of the Centre de Recherche et de documentation du Sénégal
Babacar Fall, Institut d'Etudes avancées de Saint-Louis, Senegal
Sven Becker, the Global History Network, Harvard University
Ousmane Thiaré, Recteur of the University Gaston Berger of Saint-Louis, Senegal
- 10:15-11:15 **Keynote Lecture: *Saint-Louis, Senegal: Experimental Place for French Colonial Policy***
Jean-Pierre Dozon, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, France
Chair: **Oumar Diop**, Gaston Berger University, Senegal
- 11:15-11:45 Coffee break
- 11:45-13:45 **Session One: Colonial Economy and Port Cities**
Capital Cities: Slavery and Economic Expansion in two Urban Ports: New Orleans (USA) and Saint-Louis (Senegal)
Bronwen Everill, University of Cambridge, UK
- From European Periphery to Imperial Calcutta: The Story of a Czech Enterprise in Late Colonial India*
Milan Balaban, Tomas Bata University, Czech Republic
- Lubumbashi, Congo: Global City*
Brandon Finn, Harvard University, USA
- Chair: **Sven Beckert**, Harvard University, USA
Discussant: **Prabhu Mohapatra**, University of Delhi, India
- 13:45-15:00 Lunch
- 15:00-17:00 **Session Two: Colonial Economy and Cities in Africa**
Political Independence and the Decadence of Colonial Towns in the Office du Niger, Mali
Isaie Dougnon, Fordham University, USA/University of Bamako, Mali
- Kaffrine et Kaolack: l'essor de deux centres urbains nés du programme arachidier colonial (1888-1960)*
Valy Faye, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal
- Grand Bassam dans l'expansion du capitalisme Européen dans la colonie de Côte d'Ivoire (1893-1930)*
Chikouna Cissé, University Houphouet Boigny de Cocody, Côte d'Ivoire
- Chair: **Zou Ming**, Eastern China Normal University, China
Discussant: **Maria Grosz-Ngate**, Indiana University, USA
- 17:00-17:30 Coffee break
- 18:00-19:30 **Film: Title**

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

9:00-11:00 **Session Three: Reinterpreting History through the Architecture of the Colonial City**

Africa for the Africans? Cartographies of Freedom, Emancipation and City Building in Colonial Lagos, Nigeria

Ademide Adelusi-Adeluyi, University of California Riverside, USA

Porto Novo, Benin: The Architecture of the City as Storyteller of the Ancient City

Bachir Oloude, Senior Scholar, Benin

Toward Regional Planning and Development Patterns in Post-Conflict Mali

Aminata Seck, Senior Scholar

Chair: **Donald Weber**, Institute of Social History, Belgium

Discussant: **Fatima Fall**, Gaston Berger University, Senegal

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:30 **Session Four: Colonial Cities: Rights and Control**

Four Communes and Five Comptoirs: Legal Exceptions and Rights in Senegal and French India

Larissa Kopytoff, University of South Florida St. Petersburg, USA

Policing Bombay: A Global History of Policing in Empire

Mishra Abhishek, University of Delhi, India

Dakar, capitale de l'AOF, Port maritime intercontinental et les problèmes de sa police: 1920-1925

Mamoudou Sy, University of Sine-Saloum El Hadji Ibrahima Niassé, Senegal

Chair: **Lisa McGirr**, Harvard University, USA

Discussant: **Rafael de Bivar Marquese**, University of São Paulo, Brazil

13:30-15:00 Lunch

15:00-16:30 **Session Five: Building Colonial Empire: Dynamic of Transnational Communities and Colonization through Settlements**

Colonizing Bordeaux

Lorelle Semley, College of the Holy Cross, USA

People as Fascist Colonial Infrastructure: Urbanization, through Internal and External Migration, from the New Cities of the Agro Pontino to the Italian Empire in Libya and East Africa (1931-1943)

Ayan Meer, MIT, USA

Chair: **Charles Maier**, Harvard University, USA

Discussant: **Pepijn Brandon**, International Institute for Social History, the Netherlands

16:30-17:00 Coffee break

17:00-18:15 **Keynote Lecture: Imperial Capitals: Challenges in Architecture and Planning (title?)**
Amar Farooqui, University of Delhi, India
Chair: **Leo Lucassen**, International Institute for Social History, the Netherlands

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

9:00-11:00 **Session Six: From Local to Global: Tension, Revolution, & Mutations in Colonial Cities**

From Local to Global: The Foundation of Natal (Brazil) and Dakar (Senegal) in Light of the Dispute for the South Atlantic and its Bordering Territories (16th and 19th centuries)

Rubenilson Teixeira, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil

The Politics of Dress: Habitants, Laptots and Marabouts in the Age of (Islamic) Revolution in Saint-Louis, Senegal, 1785-1815

Jody Benjamin, University of California Riverside, USA

Buenos Aires: Métamorphoses d'une ville coloniale et Atlantique – de la position périphérique dans l'empire espagnol à l'expansion économique et culturelle au seuil du XIX^e siècle

José Emilio Burucua, University San Martin, Argentina

Chair: **Benjamin Steck**, University of The Havre, France

Discussant: **Dennis Galvan**, University of Oregon, USA

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 **Session Seven: Colonial Cities of Gorée and Saint-Louis: Between Imaginary and Idealism**

Aller à Saint-Louis du Sénégal, ou NDAR KUMMBA YUMEN dans les imaginaires collectifs des populations du Fuuta Tooro de 1850 à 1960

Daha Chérif Ba, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal

Saint-Louis de Sénégal, la civilisation universelle en miniature

Alpha Amadou Sy, Inspection d'Académie de Saint-Louis, Senegal

Women, Colonial Modernity, and Gendered Decline: Gorée Island's Nineteenth-Century Transition from Cosmopolitanism to Provincialism

Sarah Zimmerman, Western Washington University

Chair: **Rokhaya Fall Sokhna**, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal

Discussant: **Jean-Pierre Dozon**, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris, France

13:00-14:00 **Closing Plenary Panel: Global History and Global Studies: Challenges for the future?**

Sven Beckert, Harvard University, USA

Leo Lucassen, International Institute for Social History, the Netherlands

Rafael de Bivar Marquese, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Prabhu Mohapatra, University of Delhi, India

Zhu Ming, East China Normal University, China.

Babacar Fall, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal & IEA Saint-Louis, Senegal

Chair: **Charles Maier**, Harvard University, USA