



Decisions about the strategy of scientific publishing are central to the development of any individual scientific career. We all want to make our research results accessible to the general public. Furthermore, we would like to be acknowledged in the area of our research and finally enter into a dialogue with colleagues and research partners worldwide.

However, nowadays such decisions are no longer solely a matter of individual choices. We face the expectations of possible employers, in the context of project applications and when it comes to the evaluation of our institutes. This concerns not only the content of our publications, as we might

than »writing about« other regions of the world. Thus, the managing board of ZMO is generally in favour of publication strategies that correspond to the individual biography of each research fellow and his or her priorities and area of study. We thus plea for an appropriate combination of monographs, articles and contributions accessible to a wider public, each in their appropriate place and mode of publishing (both international and national, print and online). Against this background, we encourage colleagues to develop their individual publication strategies and to defend them in applications and research proposals. Each researcher must, of course, personally weigh

rankings only (see San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment). In the recent past, anthologies may have lost status, but they often increase scholarly visibility, especially within thematically coherent publications. Finally, the monograph, chiefly based on a dissertation or as a second book, represents a kind of crown witness for one's own knowledge of data and ability to convincingly explore a research topic. We often expect much from such a book: it should represent your own work comprehensively and



© Fraunhofer FEP

have expected, but also extends to the number and, more problematically, the places where we publish. These days, publications are usually ranked: with articles in peer-reviewed journals in first place, followed by monographs and, in last place, working papers and articles in anthologies.

These requirements do not, however, always fulfil the ideal of dialogue with research partners outside »Western« academia, because gaining access to publications, both printed and online, is often difficult for non-Western scholars. Furthermore, in many countries, formats for publications have developed that do not follow the dominant standards of Anglo-American academia, but are nonetheless relevant for regional research networks, be it in terms of the languages employed, be it with regard to specialised journals or publishers not reaching vast but rather very specialised audiences. These are but two of the challenges faced by a research group committed to »searching with« rather

the goals, plans and requirements arising in their very individual research situation. You cannot, of course, get completely rid of some expectations – it is usually a journal article that opens up a large readership of professional colleagues, and the related peer-review process always provides valuable experiences, especially for young researchers. At ZMO, we also support the idea of first publishing individual research results as working papers that may then be used for later publications in other contexts. Working papers published on our web pages are often downloaded and linked to our general research programmes and scientific social networks. Scientific quality standards are ensured as well: the ZMO Programmatic Texts and ZMO Working Papers are critically read by at least two fellows from within the ZMO or from outside. When choosing a scientific journal to propose an article, the choice should be based on its global distribution and accessibility, not on questionable

should be attractively designed, read by many and if possible edited by a large, renowned publishing house. Many publishers may perhaps not enjoy the greatest international reputation, but nonetheless offer good service, design and placement in academic series that attract attention in scholarly circles far beyond Germany – such as the ZMO Series in Klaus Schwarz Verlag. While each fellow is ultimately free and very much encouraged to develop his or her individual strategy, a regular exchange about the questions and principles just outlined, and consultation on when to take which decisions, are considered part of the regular research practice at ZMO.

Ulrike Freitag / Tilo Grätz

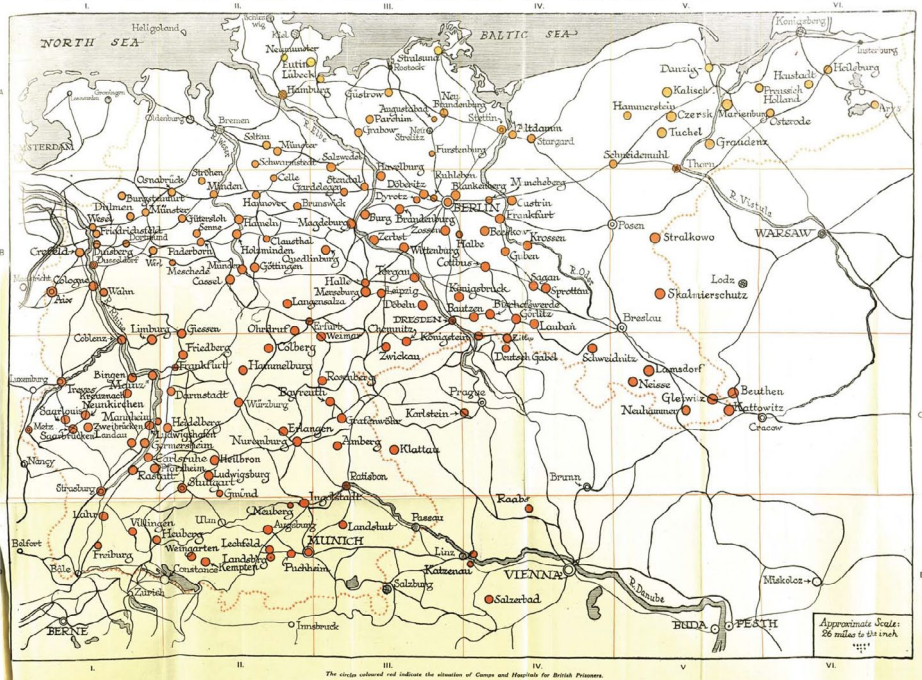
Studying the First World War as a Moment of »Cultural Encounter«

Heike Liebau, Larissa Schmid

The HERA-funded research project »Cultural Encounters With and Among »Colonial« POWs During the First World War« (September 2013-2016) is located in the field of researching the cultural and social aspects of the First World War. The project team at ZMO (Heike Liebau, Principal Investigator; Larissa Schmid, PhD) forms part of the overall HERA project »Cultural Exchange in a Time of Global Conflict: Colonials, Neutrals and Belligerents During the First World War (CEGC)«, which is coordinated by Dr Santanu Das at King's College London. The research project

brings together a cross-disciplinary and multilingual team with academic project partners at King's College London (Dr Santanu Das), Utrecht University (Prof Geert Buelens), Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland (Prof Hubert van den Berg) and ZMO Berlin (Dr Heike Liebau). Non-academic associated partners of the project include: Eye Film Institute Amsterdam, Imperial War Museum London, Lautarchiv Berlin, In Flanders Field Museum Ypres, Museum Europäischer Kulturen Berlin, deBuren bureau (Brussels) and Deutsches Literaturarchiv (Marbach).

MAP OF THE MAIN PRISON CAMPS IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA



Pope-Hennessy, Una B.: Map of the Main Prison Camps in Germany and Austria. London: Nisbet, 1920

The project is composed of three different strands. The research strand »European Encounters with Colonial and Dominion Troops in France, Belgium and England« is covered by the research team in London and recovers processes of cultural encounter between the colonial troops and Europe, and between colonial troops themselves, through letters, photographs, sound recordings and literature. The second strand, which is based at ZMO and closely cooperates with the London team, analyses POW camps as sites of encounter. Camps became social spaces where cultural encounters took place and identities were negotiated. It explores cultural encounters inside POW camps as well as the connections these camps had with their local environments. The teams in Utrecht and Poznań cover the third strand, which is concerned with questions of propaganda in neutral countries by the belligerent countries. It investigates how France, Germany and Great Britain established contact, often illicit, with cultural institutions, financed magazines and newspapers like *Revue Hollandaise* in Netherlands in order to influence public opinion in neutral countries.

To make each research strand speak fruitfully and add value to the project, it focuses on the actors of encounters, sites of encounters and processes of encounters as analytical categories for comparison. So the overall project covers a wide range of actors – men and women, soldiers and civilians, occupiers and occupied, non-literate and highly literary people from different national, political, ethnic and social backgrounds. These actors and their motives will be analysed by the different project teams through diverse but highly specific sites: battlefields, POW camps, hospitals, propaganda

The history of the First World War has become a major topic of general public interest. Thanks to a huge international commemoration machinery on the occasion of the centenary of the First World War, this event has reached an immense popularity: radio features inform on soldiers' experience on the Western front, art exhibitions display famous war painters, and Christopher Clark's »Sleepwalkers. How Europe went to War« has reached unprecedented fame and bestselling results, not only in Germany. Researching the First World War at a moment of such immense public interest is a great challenge, but also extremely fascinating. It is challenging, because as specialists in area studies, we try to strengthen non-European perceptions and experiences of the war, which are still under-researched. And it is fascinating not least because numerous sources that have been stored in dusty archives ever since the war are all of a sudden available as digital sources and allow us to widen the research frame.

The project's innovative approach is to focus on the First World War as an »intercultural moment« and to combine research on colonial and neutral strands. Through the investigative category of »encounters«, the project aims to widen the focus in First World War studies from the dominant model of military confrontation and the experience of one colony/nation/group of people to that of spaces, processes and relationships between colonies, nations and political groups: it thus aims to proceed from a static model of »national« narrative to a more dynamic, transnational and ultimately global history of the First World War. The central research question this project poses is: How did the First World War create new spaces for and put new pressures on encounters in Europe between peoples and cultures from belligerent, colonised and politically neutral countries, and what were the lasting consequences (in terms of social, cultural and literary memory) for Europe?

bureaus and centres of media production, publishing houses, cultural and art centres. In the course of the project, all team members will be working on a digital sourcebook and a travelling poster exhibition, which was discussed and conceptualised during the first project meeting in London in April 2014.

The ZMO-based subproject »Cultural Encounters with and Among ›Colonial‹ Prisoners of War (POWs) During the First World War« contributes to the overall research question by looking at situations of captivity and control during WWI. Thousands of colonial soldiers from British, French and Russian territories were imprisoned in Prisoner of War (POW) camps in Germany and Austria during the war. By means of written (e.g. camp newspapers) and visual sources (photographs, picture postcards) as well as sound recordings, the project aims to uncover encounters between and among (first of all Muslim) colonial soldiers from various regions, combatants and officers from the belligerent countries and civilians captured or interned in Germany in POW camps. Some of the main research questions are: How is encounter influenced by the experience of segregation (of ethnic, social and religious groups, military ranks etc.), separation and parting (from home, relatives) and loss (of friends on the battlefield)? Is cultural exchange possible in a controlled setting with clear power structures? What consequences did the presence of several thousand Muslim troops in these war camps have for the local towns, the daily life of their population and long-term European memory?

While Larissa Schmid in her PhD project investigates encounters in the camps, Heike Liebau looks at encounters between POWs and their local environments. Both focus on the propaganda camps »Halbmondlager« (crescent moon camp) and »Weinberglager« (vineyard camp) in Zossen/Wünsdorf in the South of Berlin, as these camps held most Muslim POWs. Of special importance is the regular work at the Lautarchiv in Berlin, which houses a collection of



Münchener Illustrierte, April 1916

sound recordings made by members of the Phonographic Commission among POWs during the First World War. The current aim is to identify the sound recordings, which will be translated during the project. Further, the team has met a group of local historiographers in Wünsdorf who are ready to share their collected material on the POW camps within the frame of the project.

Larissa Schmid's project makes use of the Höpp Archive at ZMO, which contains a vast amount of unpublished material on the camps. The project links up to ZMO's earlier research on non-European war experience, but at the same time seeks to widen the methodological approach by combining visual, textual, audio and material sources for the first time. The project conceptualises the POW camp as a site of knowledge production and aims to locate voices, experiences and networks of North African actors (camp inmates, propagandists) during the war. It pays special attention to encounters between North African POWs and German Orientalists who

undertook linguistic and anthropological studies on a large scale in the camps. Here questions of race, identity and propaganda in processes of knowledge production are of central concern. At the same time, the project aims to trace networks of North African actors working in the camps who were linked to other anti-imperialist political groups in Berlin. This focus is closely linked to on-going research endeavours on Muslim actors during the interwar period as presented by Umar Ryad's project »Study of Islam in Interwar Europe« and Jennifer Jenkins's work on Persian-German relations during the war. Together with them, the project team plans to hold a workshop on »Networks of non-European actors in First World War and Interwar Europe« in June 2014.

So far, Larissa Schmid's PhD concept has been discussed at the Colloquium »The First World War in a Global Perspective« at the Freie Universität Berlin in February 2014 as well as during the HERA project meeting in April in London. Heike Liebau gave a lecture »Imprisoned in Zossen and Wünsdorf: Encounters During the First World War« (Kriegsgefangen in Zossen und Wünsdorf: Begegnungen im Ersten Weltkrieg) at the Bücherstall in Wünsdorf in March 2014. Here the main focus was on prisoners of war encounters with the local population of the region. The team is in frequent communication with the other project teams in Utrecht, Poznań and London. In regular meetings with the associated partners, for instance with Elisabeth Tietmeyer (Museum Europäischer Kulturen), the project team has discussed forms and ways of cooperation and how to disseminate research results to a wider public. In this context, it is interesting to note that the Museum Europäischer Kulturen together with the other State Museums in Berlin is organising the exhibition »1914. Awakening. World Breakup« (1914. Aufbruch. Weltbruch), which displays sound recordings of the Phonographic Commission (see <http://www.smb.museum/ausstellungen.html>). Further, the team collaborates closely with the HERA project »Making War, Mapping Europe: Militarized Cultural Encounters, 1792-1920« (MWME), led by Oliver Janz at Freie Universität Berlin. As one of the main aims of HERA projects is to reach a wider public, it is hoped that these projects can contribute to increasing awareness of the cultural and social themes of WWI through exhibitions and publications, even after the climax of the centenary in 2014.



Urban Violence in the Middle East: A German-British Project

When Nelida Fuccaro of SOAS, London and Ulrike Freitag of ZMO, Berlin first discussed a German-British project on Urban Violence in the Middle East in 2009, the aim was a scholarly one, namely to reflect on a topic that was given increasing attention in international history as a particular type of contention, but was, with regard to the Middle East, often regarded as an expression of the particularly violent nature of its societies. Thus, the aim was to produce a number of well-founded case studies that would help to situate Middle Eastern events in a wider theoretical context. A spe-

cific interest was how urban violence changed with the increasing presence of state institutions at various levels of society, i.e. how the processes of administrative and political change or modernisation affected the ways society and the state interacted. Violence was taken as one – extreme – marker of this system coming under stress. By the time the project – now including Nora Lafi of ZMO – was approved and additional researchers recruited, namely Rasmus Elling

at SOAS and Claudia Schröder and Fatemeh Masjedi at ZMO, and the project was truly getting under way, the events that initially became known as the »Arab Spring« erupted. They added a new sense of urgency to the purely historically orientated project, given that the symbolic use of public spaces, one of the main concerns of the project, was so clearly accentuated in the uprisings. While studying past contentious politics, we witnessed revolutionary movements and governments employing both tactics we knew from our sources and new forms of organisation and public violence, encouraging us to take a broader and bolder view of our topics.

Claudia Schröder

■ Conferences & Workshops

The World During the First World War: Perceptions, Experiences, and Consequences

Herrenhausen Symposium organised by the German Historical Institute London (GHIL), Leibniz University Hanover, Volkswagen Foundation, and ZMO, Herrenhausen Palace, 28–30 October 2013

The centenary of the First World War has triggered a whole series of academic events in 2014, remembering it in various different ways around the globe. We do not yet know whether official commemorations will be limited to narrow national interpretations, or include reflections on the global dimensions of the war. Whose remembrance are we talking about when we discuss the memory of the First World War on a global scale? This was an underlying thread in the many questions posed at the international symposium, which discussed the causes, the course, and the consequences of the First World War, paying special attention to its global dimension. Analysing local, social, and political movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, its aim was to remove »research patterns from the constraints of a narrow European approach«.

The rich programme both reflected the shift from a predominantly military history to a broader focus on social and cultural history in First World War studies, and made space for new interdisciplinary and comparative approaches. In order to include all participants in developing broader lines of thought, general questions on the conceptualisation and the historiography of the First World War, the regional effects of the war, its impact on political movements, and new methodological approaches in studying the First World War were debated in plenary sessions. The panel sessions provided ample opportunity to present new empirical data and gave a chance for



Presentation of Larissa Schmid, ZMO, chaired by Prof Helmut Bley, University Hanover, 28 October 2013 (©Volkswagen-Stiftung)

further conceptual debate. More than twenty speakers presented their current research with regard to the circulation of people and ideas, the human consequences of war in non-European societies, and new social and political movements.

Participants in the conference uncompromisingly acknowledged the Great War as a global phenomenon. At the same time, the meaning of Europe in the war and the continuous »discursive hegemony of Europe« in First World War historiography were critically remarked upon and even challenged in various discussions.

The conference showed that thinking about the First World War on a global scale does not mean just looking at different regions, but thinking of them together and fostering comparative, translocal, and interdisciplinary approaches. At the same time, it was obvious that many discussions at the conference were dominated by the paradigms of social history, such as »class«, »capitalism«, or »gender«, and were perceived by some discussants as neglecting research achievements that tried to break with such metanarratives. Some argued that interdisciplinary

approaches should be strengthened by systematically including literary studies, medical history, or archaeology in the study of the First World War. The implied tension in studying the »world during the First World War« (as the conference title suggested) was critically remarked upon because it makes the war the central historical event for global societies and, as such, reproduces a European paradigm. Seeing the war as the background to historical events (such as the Massacre of Amritsar in 1919 or the Easter Rising of 1916 in Dublin) would produce a more nuanced picture of what had happened in different parts of the world. An extended version of the conference report was published in *H-Soz-u-Kult* (<http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/tagungsberichte/id=5354>, 8.5.2014) and in the *Bulletin of the German Historical Institute in London* in May 2014. For details on the sessions and panels please see <http://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/nc/en/events/details-of-events/article/symposium-the-world-during-the-first-world-war.html>

Larissa Schmid

Transregional Crossroads of Social Interaction: The Shifting Meaning of Belonging in South and Central Asia ZMO, 21 March 2014



Workshop participants, conference hall ZMO

The aim of the workshop was to explore the shifting meaning of regional belonging across the neighbouring regions of South

and Central Asia from both a historical and a contemporary perspective. The notion of belonging was defined as the claim to being part of a larger community in a current general context of uncertainty and political crises where membership in the territorialised community (in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India) is blurred. Belonging was examined in the context of transnational religious movements and the interaction among and adaptation to different societies where these movements originated, as the case of the South Asian movement of Tablighi Jama'at in Central Asia exemplifies. Moreover, it appears quite difficult to grasp the notion of belong-

ing in the border zones or frontiers. On these fringes, people shift allegiances depending on their understanding of the context and benefit from a rapidly changing scenario that is the product of the struggle for territory.

During the various sessions, several discussions took place, mostly concerning the difference between »belonging« and »identity« and the spatial dimension that the notion of »belonging« entails. Issues of belonging at the local level are articulated as forms of contestation of an

ascribed representation of space (i.e. being Afghan, Pakistani or Kashmiri), whereas belonging in a transnational dimension concerns forms of the appropriation of space (the construction of major infrastructures or religious reformism). The workshop programme included participants from academic institutions in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, India, the USA, England and Germany and was widely attended by students and researchers based in Berlin, as well as by various members of the Crossroads Asia network. The organisers of the workshop will prepare a publication.

Antía Mato Bouzas

Captivating Edirne: Resources, Connectivities and Imaginative Attraction of a Turkish Border City in Europe ZMO, 10–11 April 2014

The Graduate School of Muslim Cultures and Societies and ZMO hosted this workshop organised by Birgit Krawietz and Florian Riedler and sponsored by Fritz Thyssen-Foundation. It was the workshop's aim to collect recent and innovative research on the city of Edirne, which has received less scholarly and public attention than it deserves.

To combine a historical with a contemporary perspective on the city's heritage was an important issue at the workshop. In recent decades, Edirne's Ottoman heritage in particular has become very important, as shown by the examples of the newly acquired UNESCO World Heritage status of Selimiye mosque and the excavation and reconstruction of the imperial palace that was destroyed in the nineteenth century.

While the remnants of Ottoman imperial culture remain very visible and valued until today, the influence of other communities that characterised Ottoman Edirne as a multi-religious and multicultural city are less obvious. Other papers focused on such historical communities as Edirne's Jews or Ragusan merchants, but also examined contemporary multiculturalism. Today, Turkish migrants from Bulgaria and Roma leave their cultural footprint on the city. Like the city's relationship to its different communities of inhabitants, its relation to its neighbours has also changed considerably. In the late nineteenth century, Edirne became a border city that, together with its surrounding region Thrace, was claimed by Turkish, Greek and also Bulgarian nationalisms. The border, which had been more or less sealed off during the Cold War, was opened again after 1989. However, contacts among the communities on both sides remain difficult, as the example of Bulgarian Turkish cross-border projects show. In Ottoman times, like today, the border remains one of the main features that define the identity of the city and its inhabitants.

Florian Riedler

Report from Damascus: Perceptions and Experiences of a Syrian Historian in Damascus, ZMO, 30 April 2014



Katharina Lange, Abdallah Hanna

ZMO hosted a working talk by Dr Abdallah Hanna about his recent visit to Damascus in March of this year. Dr. Hanna (born in 1932) is one of the best-known Syrian historians. He has conducted an impressive number of oral history interviews since the 1980s, making him one of the pioneers of oral history methods in the history of Syria and of the Middle East in general.

In his vivid description of the current situation in Damascus and the Qalamoun Mountains as he experienced it or heard about it from eyewitnesses, Dr. Hanna traced the transformation of the conflict in Syria since March 2011. The security situation rendered impossible his initial plans to visit a range of different towns during his stay; however, Dr. Hanna was able to interview a number of Syrians from different regional backgrounds who were now staying in Damascus as refugees.

The protests began with peaceful demonstrations against the Syrian regime in spring 2011 that brought hundreds of thousands of Syrians to the street. Protestors were motivated by the demand to be treated with dignity, as citizens rather than subjects; they also responded to

deep social and economic problems that were especially acutely felt farther away from the centres of power. Since then, these dynamics have been overwhelmed by an escalation of violence and the increasing confessionalisation of the conflict, as well as by massive interventions by foreign powers on the different sides. The deteriorating security and economic situation has resulted in thugs and criminals operating on the various sides of the conflict, resorting to intimidation and extortion and plundering. Hanna pointed out differences in the ranks of the opposition, where local activists and militants, in contrast to foreign Jihadis, often acted to protect the Christian population, for instance. He also described how in the areas occupied by the armed opposition, the growing presence of foreign fighters has led to an increase in violence.

In the end, Hanna drew a pessimistic conclusion: most Syrians, he said, felt they were faced with the option of choosing between two evils: those forces within the Regime which resist any change and a disorganised and violent armed opposition. Both of these sides have specifically targeted (abducted, tortured, killed) civil and secular activists who could have contributed to finding a more democratic future for the country. In view of the current situation, however, such a future is more uncertain than ever.

Katharina Lange

■ Lecture Series ■ ■ ■

The Cotton Plantation Remembered: An Egyptian Family Story, Prof Mona Abaza, ZMO, 24 April 2014

Within the ZMO colloquium series Prof Mona Abaza (American University of Cairo) was a guest with the lecture »The Cotton Plantation Remembered: An Egyptian Family Story«, which is based on her new book with the same title. She showed that the Egyptian 'izba (estate or plantation) of the 19th and 20th centuries was far from an archaic feudal structure: in fact it was a capitalist production form with some feudal aspects, a labour camp for both permanent and seasonal agricultural workers, housing dramatically different lifestyles and standards of living of the owners and the workers. The presentation, which was accompanied by a selection of photographs from the book, provided a very nuanced history of agricultural production and labour and of the transformation of rural life through the demise of the

'izba system. This history left little space for the common narratives of either glorifying the old times or seeing Nasser's land reform as the key turning point in rural life. Not only were the old times far from glorious for those who had to work on the farms, farm labour also continued much in the same shape in Nasser's time, and the situation changed only when the international labour migration of rural Egyptians began in the 1970s. The 'izba studied by Mona Abaza was not just any estate, but in fact her family's estate, where she had conducted research with the peasants for thirty years. This historical and personal depth, as well the way she makes use of archival material, photography and long-term ethnography, made the presentation and the book highly interesting also from a methodological point of view.

Samuli Schielke

ZMO-Colloquium 2014/2015: Who speaks? – The Global History of Intellectual Practices: Epistemological, Political, and Ethical Challenges

In recent years, there have been various attempts in historiographical research to go beyond national and civilisational units. The focus on comparisons, transfers, exchanges, entanglements, global connections and translations has also provoked responses from practitioners of intellectual history, conceptual history, the history of ideas, and the history of knowledge. Yet, we think that the task of »Provincializing Europe« (Dipesh Chakrabarty) calls for methodological consequences that still merit further reflection. This applies to the question of how the object of intellectual his-

tory, its framework of analysis, its categories and its methods are conceived.

We take this situation as the starting point of our lecture series and invite speakers to explore different ways of *doing* intellectual history on a global scale, thereby engaging the epistemological, political and ethical challenges posed by the project of provincialising methodologies of intellectual history, i.e. to ask what is particular and what is universal about them. These questions are relevant because they urge us to think through the location of the humanities and the social sciences

in relation to (world) history, what is called modernity and what has often been identified as modernity's others, such as pre-modern times, tradition and Islam. This invites us to further reflect upon the very categories that we employ as researchers to look at worlds past and present – as implied in the title of the current research program of the ZMO »Muslim Worlds – World of Islam?« The colloquium is organised by Nils Riecken, Katrin Bromber, Bettina Gräf, Ali Raza. For the programme please see <http://www.zmo.de/veranstaltungen/Veranstaltungen2014.html>

■ Other Activities



Gesellschaft zur Förderung des ZMO e.V. (Association for the Advancement of ZMO)

On March 28, 2014, the Association for the Advancement of ZMO e.V. awarded the Fritz Steppat Prize for an outstanding scientific text by a young researcher. The winner was Nushin Atmaca with her master thesis »Saudiische Lebensgeschichten. Die ›Generation des Aufbaus‹ im Spiegel zeitgenössischer Autobiographien«. The Fritz Steppat Prize will be awarded every second year. Fritz Steppat (1923-2006) was the first provisional director of the Forschungsschwerpunkt Modern Orient, the precursor institution to today's ZMO. He was one of the trailblazers of present-oriented, interdisciplinary and practice-oriented research on the Orient in the Federal Republic of Germany. From 1992 to 1993, he was the first Provisional Director of the Forschungsschwerpunkt Moderner Orient, the precursor institution to today's ZMO. In 1998, in the framework of the Fritz and Gertraud Steppat Donation, the



The Association's chairman Prof Peter Heine congratulates awardee Nushin Atmaca

ZMO received Fritz Steppat's private research library.

On the same day, the Association's annual lecture 2014 was held by Dr

Nitin Sinha, a lecturer in Modern History at the Department of History, University of York. Between 2008 and 2012, he was a post-doctoral researcher at ZMO, Berlin. In his talk titled »Contract, Work and Resistance: Boatmen in Early Colonial Eastern India, 1760s-1850s« Nitin Sinha focused on boatmen, who, he said, were the most important transport workers in colonial India. British men and women were often left with them on their long journeys. Sinha explored the nature and organisation of work and the resistance from the boatmen and gave special attention to the contract regime. It is the contract that helps the researcher understand not only the formal ›structure of work‹, but also details of the journey, such as weather conditions, internal conflicts and food preparation.

Heike Liebau

Alfilm – Arab Film Festival Berlin, 19–26 March 2014



Norman Saadi Nikro, Husam Chadat

The 5th Arab Film Festival Berlin offered many highlights, starting with the opening film from the official selection, the Oscar-nominated Palestinian feature film »Omar«, through the Spotlight series which presented controversial and entertaining historical and contemporary films and documentaries on the theme »Of Flesh and Light – the Body in Arab Cinema«, to the multifaceted Specials,

which included a concert, a short film programme for children and many lectures and discussions with the numerous filmmakers present at the festival. The selection combined formal and content-related aspects and was based on both the films' sensory aspects and their representation of the body through the medium of film. Superposing young and old, attractive and repulsive, wounded, loving, and disabled bodies, the filmmakers engaged in social criticism, testing the limits of individual expression and deconstructing cinematic genres.

As a partner of Alfilm Festival and ZMO colleagues Norman Saadi Nikro and Laura Menin participated in in-

roducing and discussing films. The festival itself recorded a considerable increase of visitors and drew lively interest from the audience.



Impressum ■ *Orient Bulletin, History, Society and Culture in Asia, the Middle East and Africa* ■ published by Zentrum Moderner Orient, Geisteswissenschaftliche Zentren Berlin e.V. ■ editorial board: Sonja Hegazy, Hagen Fiedler, Svenja Becherer ■ photos without reference: ZMO ■ contributors to this edition: Tilman Böcker, Ulrike Freitag, Tilo Grätz, Katharina Lange, Heike Liebau, Antia Mato Bouzas, Florian Riedler, Regina Sarreiter, Larissa Schmid, Claudia Schröder, Samuli Schielke ■ ISSN 2191-3226 (print); 2191-3234 (online) ■ please require permission for use and reproduction of the content ■ we welcome your comments: svenja.becherer@zmo.de

»Long Night of Sciences«, Berlin, 10 May 2014

ZMO took part in the 8th Long Night of Sciences. From 5 pm to midnight, about 70 institutions in Berlin and Potsdam presented their research and academic work to an interested public. This year ZMO was a guest under the roof of its two sister institutes, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung (ZfL) and Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS). With a multifarious programme of presentations, ZMO Fellows gave insight into their work as researchers on topics like dam constructions in Turkey, the challenges of archival work in Saudi Arabia, religious radio stations in Benin and various approaches to biographical research. A presentation on the miniskirt in Africa and a slideshow about trucks travelling between Bamako and Abidjan gave an impression of the researchers' encounters in the wider



Speed debating session

scope of their respective projects. Eventually the atmosphere grew very animated during a speed debating session in which visitors had the chance to ask five Fellows in a row all they ever wanted to ask about the »Arab Spring«. Regina Sarreiter

ZMO Library

Work on the estate of Gerhard Höpp completed



After almost ten years of work, the estate of the Middle East historian Gerhard Höpp (1942-2003) is completely digitised and indexed in the electronic database of ZMO (see also Bulletin No. 23, p. 7). Approximately 8,000 documents in a variety of areas of research are thereby made accessible to scholars, not only at the ZMO but also worldwide. (http://www.zmo.de/biblio/sammlung_hoepf.htm)

In particular, the documents related to Muslims in Germany during the world wars and the interwar period, and especially to Arab and Muslim encounters with National Socialism, are inimitable. In addition, the sources on the life and work of the Azerbaijani writer Essad Bey alias Lev Nussimbaum are impressive. These two collections are unique in their compilation and formed the basis of several scientific papers and books by Gerhard Höpp and later scholars who have been using the material so far.

The estate also contains documents on political movements and societies in the Islamic world and graphic material, as well as sources on the development of science, especially the humanities, in both German states before 1989 and in Germany after unification. Because of the large number of documents

and their heterogeneous languages (English, German, Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Russian etc.), types (copies, originals, private notes, letters etc.) and coverage, it took great efforts by the library of the ZMO to make these collections accessible. By making the material usable in the Internet, the ZMO has created a virtual research environment that can be used worldwide. The responses in and outside ZMO mirror researchers' great interest in this project. The Gerhard Höpp estate is the first collection of personal papers hosted at ZMO Archives that is now completely digitised. Others will follow. All in all, ZMO Archives contain the personal papers of several important scholars, journalists and diplomats. The electronic database is accessible via the ZMO library homepage. Inside the database, the user can search for documents using different parameters, like language, name of persons and authors, title, descriptions, items and resources. Most of the documents in the database are secured by a password that can be requested at the library if the applicant has a comprehensible research interest. All documents are presented as PDF files that can be downloaded and printed.

In this regard, the ZMO has followed the lead of the idea of open access. Research data is now available on an international scale and is not restricted to researchers in industrialised countries.

Tilman Böcker

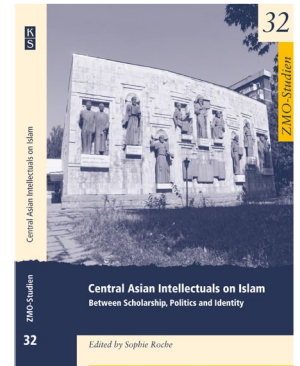
Tilman Böcker was an assistant at the ZMO library. In 2011, he started a series of articles on the legacies and collections donated to ZMO over the years. Though he left ZMO in February 2014, we hope to continue the series on the archival material intermittently.

publications

ZMO Publication Series

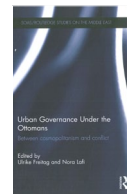
Sophie Roche (ed.): Central Asian Intellectuals on Islam. Between Scholarship, Politics and Identity, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Geisteswissenschaftliche Zentren Berlin e.V., ZMO-STUDIEN

32, 2014, 396 p, ISBN 9783879977178



Other Publications

- Bromber Katrin, Birgit Krawietz, Petar Petrov: Wrestling in Multifarious Modernity, The International Journal of the History of Sport, 1-14.
- Chappatte, André: Chinese Products, Social Mobility and Material Modernity in Bougouni, a Small but Fast-Growing Administrative Town of South-west Mali, African Studies, 21 February 2014.



- Freitag, Ulrike, Nora Lafi, eds.: Urban Governance Under the Ottomans. Between Cosmopolitanism and Conflict, SOAS/Routledge Studies on the Middle East, Routledge, Abingdon 2014, 238 p.



- Hew, Wai Weng: Identiti Cina Muslim di Malaysia. Persempadanan Perundingan & Kacukan Budaya, Penerbit Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi, 2014, 250 p.



- Roy, Franziska, Heike Liebau, Ravi Ahuja, eds: Soldat Ram Singh und der Kaiser. Indische Kriegsgefangene in deutschen Propagandalagern 1914-1918, Draupadi, Heidelberg, 2014, 339 p.

ZMO Programmatic Texts

- Liebau, Heike, Kai Kresse: Mobility and agency: movement and people. ZMO Programmatic Texts 8, 2013, 13 p. <http://d-nb.info/1047572133/34>
- Lange, Katharina, Sebastian R. Prange, Nitin Sinha: Reflecting on »Muslim Worlds – World of Islam?« from a spatial perspective. ZMO Programmatic Text 7, 2013, 9 p. <http://d-nb.info/1045799513/34>.

For more please see <http://www.zmo.de/publikationen/index.html>.

People

With the beginning of the second funding phase, the ZMO directorate was restructured. The positions of the two Vice Directors were made one – Dr. Sonja Hegasy holds this office as of January 2014 – and a position for a Research Coordinator was established, administered since March 2014 by Dr. Hagen Findeis. Findeis studied Protestant Theology at the University of Leipzig. His doctoral research in Sociology dealt with the history of Protestantism in Germany during the 20th century and with the political culture in Germany since 1989. From 2005 to 2013, he was Academic Coordinator and then Managing Director of the interdisciplinary research cluster and graduate school »Society and Culture in Motion« at the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg.

At the research level, ZMO has welcomed several new colleagues. As of January 2014, four researchers started work at ZMO, among them two familiar faces, Dr. Franziska Roy and Julian Tadesse (see Bulletin 24), who began their respective projects in the research group »Progress and its Discontents«. Dr. Jeanine Dağyeli launched a project in the research group »The Politics of Resources«. She studied Central Asian Studies and Islamic Studies at Humboldt University in Berlin, where she also earned her PhD on codices of conduct for Central Asian craftsmen. Stations of her professional work include Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and the Academy of Sciences in Uzbekistan. Her fields of interest are the history and anthropology of labour, local history, popular literature and media.

Dr. André Chappatte graduated from the SOAS in 2013. His PhD dissertation focuses on young male migrants of rural origin who have moved to build better lives in the small towns of Bougouni district; it explores the importance they place on being both successful and good Muslims in contemporary Mali. As a research fellow at ZMO in Berlin and post-doctoral associate with the Department of Anthropology and Sociology of SOAS, his current research interests are public morality, secrecy, nightlife, and urban growth in border towns in southern Mali and northern Ivory Coast.

As of June 2014, Dr. Ali Nobil Ahmad will start at ZMO within the research group »The Politics of Resources«. He received his PhD on human smuggling from Pakistan to Europe from the Department of History at the European University Institute in Florence in 2008. He has been Assistant Professor of History at the Lahore University of Management Studies since 2009. In 2013-14, he was Madeleine Haas Russell Visiting Professor of South Asian Studies at

Brandeis University His research interests include cinema, the media, political history and political ecology in Pakistan and beyond. Dr. Sanaa Alimia, COFUND stipendiary with the BGSMS, will be associated at ZMO as of May 2014. She is working on »Contesting Modernity in Urban Pakistan: Neoliberalism, Street Politics, and Moral Lives«.

Other colleagues set off for new shores. As of February, Dr. Jeanne Féaux de la Croix took a position as head of the Junior Research Group »Cultural History of Water in Central Asia« at the University of Tübingen. In the middle of April 2014, Dr. Bettina Gräf, a former colleague in the interdisciplinary research project »In Search of Europe«, became Managing Director at the Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies.

As of July 2014, Regina Sarreiter will no longer be in charge of the tasks of Public Relations Assistant to the Director; beginning in January 2015, she will start a PhD project at ZMO on the history of ethnographic collecting.

The project »Transforming Memories: Cultural Production and Personal/Public Memory« was finished by the end of March 2014. In this context, ZMO bade farewell to Dr. Laura Menin, who has started a post-doctoral position at the Department of Human Sciences, University of Milano-Bicocca as of May 2014. PD Dr. Steffen Wippel, a long-standing colleague, left ZMO; he will start a one-year professorship in Contemporary Middle East Studies at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense as of August 2014. ZMO also bade farewell to Dr. Chanfi Ahmed.

After her successful curating work in the interdisciplinary exhibition project »In Search of Europe. Equals in an Unequal World«, Daniela Swarowsky left ZMO at the end of March. Tilman Böcker, an assistant at the ZMO library, left in February after finishing his research studies in library science. Also Christoph Zelke's assistance ended by the end of 2013. He has started as a consultant on education, game-based-learning and e-learning in Düsseldorf. He has been followed by Héléne Laurain, who since February has handled the website and layout matters.

ZMO welcomes several guests during the year. There are four Visiting Research Fellows in 2014: Dr. Gulnora Ganieva, Institute of History at the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan (April-May); Dr. Nikhil Rao, Department of History, Wellesley College, Wellesley MA (June-July); Dr. Lea Nocera, Turkish Studies, University of Naples L'Orientale (September-October) and Dr. Ginu Zacharia Oommen, Nehru Memorial Museum, New Delhi (November-December)

Dr. Azita Bathaie is Fernand Braudel Fellow (Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Marie Curie Actions and Fritz Thyssen Foundation) at ZMO for a period of nine months

as of March 2014. She holds a Doctorate in Anthropology from the Paris Ouest Nanterre University. Her current project is about urban change in Dashte Barchi, a Shi'a neighbourhood that has developed on the margin of Kabul since the fall of the Taliban with the return of migrants from Iran and Pakistan.

In February and March, ZMO hosted Assistant Professor Sylvia Bergh from the Erasmus University Rotterdam, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS); she works on development management and governance. In March, Professor Jennifer Jenkins visited the Centre. She works on nineteenth- and twentieth-century German cultural and political history, with an emphasis on nationalism, public culture and civil society.

Awards

ZMO Fellow at the BGSMS Dr. Britta Frede received the Hedwig-Hintze-Frauenförderpreis of the Fachbereich Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften at the FU Berlin for her distinguished PhD dissertation »Zwischen Kontinuität und Erneuerung: Šaiḥāni (Aḥmad Maḥmūd b. Muhammad aṭ-Ṭulba alias Manabba, 1907-1986) und die Entwicklung der Tiğāniya in Mauretaniien am Beispiel der Faiḍa-Bewegung von Ibrāhīm Niasse (1900-1975)«. The book will be published within the series ZMO Studien in 2014.

We congratulate our colleague Nushin Atmaca on the Fritz Steppat Prize awarded to her by the Gesellschaft zur Förderung des ZMO e.V. (see p. 6).

New Project

In April 2014, ZMO received a grant to carry out the research project »Spaces of Participation: Topographies of Political and Social Change in Morocco, Egypt and Palestine« from the Volkswagen Stiftung. The project will be a cooperation between ZMO, University Mohamed V in Rabat, Morocco, Cairo University and Birzeit University, Palestine, starting in July 2014.



calendar

ZMO-COLLOQUIUM 2014/2015

- Andrew Sartori, Associate Professor of History University of Chicago, 16 October 2014, 18h, ZMO

CONFERENCES

- Future Africa – Conference of the African Studies Association in Germany (VAD), 11-14 June 2014

For further information see:
www.zmo.de/veranstaltungen