





CHRC News

Congratulations to Minjae Zoh

Congratulation to former CHRC PhD Minjae Zoh on her new position as Research Professor at Seoul National University Asia Centre. The research is on 'Mega-Asia' with the agenda being identity, dynamics, and data telling.

COVER STORY

The reconversion of the Hagia Sophia to a mosque and the reconstruction of Turkish nationhood

Former CHRC Visiting Scholar, Professor Eisuke Tanaka argues that the reconversion of Hagia Sophia to a mosque cannot only be seen merely in terms of a dichotomy between secularism and Islamism, or between cultural nationalism and internationalism. It does not necessarily mean to praise the Ottoman Empire itself either, but rather to glorify the Turkish nation.

Continue to read on page 2.

Photo: Hagia Sophia. Eisuke Tanaka.

COVER STORY

The reconversion of the Hagia Sophia to a mosque and the reconstruction of Turkish nationhood

state ruled to annul the 1934 decision that converted the Hagia case, Erdoğan's government has attempted to reinvent the Turkish Sophia into a museum. On the same day, President Recep Tayyip nation under the disguise of Ottomanism since the 2000s. By calling Erdoğan immediately signed a Presidential decree, reclassifying the attention to how the Turkish state relates traces of both Islamic and Hagia Sophia as a mosque. Two weeks later, Muslim prayers were pre-Islamic heritage with Turkish nationhood, we can elicit its held in the building for the first time in 86 years. Many analysts have specific political strategies to construct a particular national timepointed out that these actions for part of an ongoing project by space through the management of heritage, and its consequences. Erdoğan's government to renew the imagined community of the Turkish nation (e.g. Erimtan 2020). However, this re-designation raises important questions in terms of heritage, such as to whom the site belongs, and which aspect of the past this reconversion references while silencing other aspects. Notably, the reconversion of the building cannot only be seen merely in terms of a dichotomy between secularism and Islamism, or between cultural nationalism and internationalism (Merryman, 1986).

The Hagia Sophia (Avasofya in Turkish), was originally built as an Orthodox cathedral in 537, and was converted into a mosque following the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople in 1453. In 1934 the council of ministers led by Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Turkish Republic, decided to convert it to a museum, prohibiting the use of the building as a place of worship. This conversion is considered to symbolise the secularist policy of the Turkish nationstate. In 1985 the Hagia Sophia, as part of the 'Historic Areas of Istanbul', was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. In recent years the Turkish government has, step-by-step, endorsed the reintroduction of Islamic practices into the Hagia. For example, since 2013, two of its minarets have been used for the call to prayer. Since 2018 especially, Erdoğan has made reference to plans to convert the Hagia Sophia back to a mosque on several occasions. Moreover, the Turkish government has ordered that several other References: former Byzantine churches and monasteries, which functioned as mosques during the Ottoman period, be reconverted to mosques once again. Pınar Aykaç (2019) points out that the since the mid-2000s, the heritage management project for the historic quarter of Istanbul has highlighted the Ottoman heritage and intentionally neglected the city's late-Roman and Byzantine heritage.

However, such signification of the Ottoman past does not Vardar, N. 2013. Interview with Edhem Eldem: Resurrecting the Ottoman Glory of necessarily mean to praise the Ottoman Empire itself. Rather, events such as the conquest of Constantinople and the subsequent conversion of the Hagia Sophia to a mosque are deployed to glorify the Turkish nation, as historian Edhem Eldem argues (see Vardar, 2013). Associating the Turkish nation with the Ottoman past also indicates a radical shift from the national ideology of the early Turkish Republic, which distanced itself from its Ottoman or Islamic heritage.

On 10 July 2020, Turkey's administrative court and the council of Although the reconversion of the Hagia Sophia is the most symbolic



Erimtan, C. 2020 The Re-Conversion of the Ayasofya: Starting the Countdown to 2023. 21st Century Wire 30 July, https://21stcenturywire.com/2020/07/30/the-reconversion-of-the-ayasofya-starting-the-countdown-to-2023/ (accessed on 31 July,

Aykaç, P. 2019 Musealisation as a strategy for the reconstruction of an idealised Ottoman past: Istanbul's Sultanahmet district as a 'museum-quarter', International Journal of Heritage Studies, 25:2, 160-177.

Istanbul? Bianet, https://bianet.org/english/local-goverment/143590-resurrecting-theottoman-glory-of-istanbul (accessed on 30 July, 2020

Text and photo:

Professor Eisuke Tanaka, Faculty of Humanities, Fukuoka Jo Gakuin University, former CHRC Visiting Scholar

NEWS

Places of Joy: The Role of Heritage After Lockdown

As lockdown is gradually released, people are using heritage locations as places of reunion, sociality and escape, but also potentially to satisfy deeper psychological and socio-cultural needs. A collaboration between researchers at University of The research has been co-designed with the heritage sector in the specific characteristics of heritage sites that contribute to HeritageAfterLockdown. wellbeing and resilience.



Avebury. Photo: J R. Soafer.

The research, led by Prof. Jo Sofaer (Southampton) and Prof. Marie Louise Stig Sørensen (Cambridge), uses this unique period following the release of lockdown, when access to heritage is regained after a period of deprivation, to explore the potentials of heritage by examining:

- What motivates people to visit heritage spaces after lockdown? What needs do access to heritage spaces satisfy?
- The role of heritage in wellbeing and how heritage might be used to develop future resilience? If heritage is fulfilling needs developed during lockdown, what are the qualities of heritage spaces that may enhance wellbeing and what could be the role of heritage in wellbeing going forward, including developing resilience should there be further spikes in COVID-19?
- Whether visits to heritage locations at a time of heightened emotion are creating new forms of emotional resonance and perceptions of heritage. What impacts have these visits had

on people and how does this affect their attitudes and visits to heritage sites going forward?

Southampton, University of Cambridge and University of Surrey, England and is being carried out at a series of different kinds of and supported by Historic England and The Heritage heritage sites, including both free and pay-to-enter. It takes a Alliance, Places of Joy: The Role of Heritage After longitudinal approach, tracing responses to heritage from June-Lockdown investigates whether and why heritage appears as a October 2020. There is more information and updates on the joyful space at a time of national crisis, and thus to understand project on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/

> If you have visited a heritage site since the end of lockdown we would be grateful if you would consider filling in a short survey. The survey can be accessed from the link below and takes approximately 10-15 minutes to complete:

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HAL2020

We would also like to collect stories and reminiscences of your visits to heritage sites after lockdown. Tell us the story of your visit, why it was meaningful to you, and why you chose a heritage site. If you would like to contribute your story, please email it to: HeritageAfterLockdown@soton.ac.uk

Alternatively, we would be happy to arrange a short online interview to document your experience.



Mottisfont Abbey. Photo: National Trust.

Call for Book Chapters: Poetics and Politics of Trauma: Regional Wounds, Universal Traumas, and the Possibility of Empathy

Closing date: 15 August 2020

Deconstructive trauma theory pioneered in the West by scholars such as Cathy Caruth and Jeoffrey Hartman has been criticized postcolonial scholars for the psychologization of traumatic experience, making it individual and linguistic rather than material and collective, while de-historicizing and de-politicizing the traumatic experience of colonized population. Recent pluralist and postcolonial approaches to trauma studies emphasize the social, cultural, political specificities of traumatic and experience.

Vernon Press invites chapter proposals for the collected work Poetics and Politics of Trauma: Regional Wounds, Universal Traumas, and the Possibility of Empathy, edited by Maryam Ghodrati and Rachel Dale. We aim to ask whether, in a globalizing world grappling with copious forms of traumatizing grievances (including terrorism. wars. massive displacements of refugees, rise of far-right police violence. sentiments. etc.). deconstructivist and pluralist theories could merge to provide an understanding of trauma, its narrative, and sociopolitical dimensions. How can we consider the ongoing nature of suffering experienced by traumatized subjects and yet develop a more humane way of representation that could lead to what Dominick LaCapra termed as "empathic unsettlement"? What relations exist between the empathetic vision and prevention of suffering? Could the unbridgeable gap between the sufferer and nonsurvivor be bridged by the nature of its incomprehensibility? In a sense can we define suffering and pain as a universalized concept without sacrificing native cultural and political specificities?

They welcome innovative scholarly work on topics related to historical and ongoing contemporary traumas experienced by non-white communities. This includes the conflict zones (primarily Middle East and North Africa), colonial, neo-colonial and post-colonial world, border lines and immigrants, and minorities in the West.

Please submit a chapter proposal of 300-500 words to Rachel Dale (rdale@brandeis.edu) and Maryam Ghodrati (mghodrati@umass.edu). Final chapter lengths will be 6,000-8,000 words.

New Edited Volume: Micro-Historical Perspectives on an Integrated History of the Holocaust

Closing date: 30 September 2020

The edited volume aims to approach to Holocaust history in a way that combines macro analysis with micro studies of individual actions and responses. The editors seek to combine these perspectives in order to uncover connections that might not be so easily seen with a more traditional, singular approach.

They invite submissions which utilise textual, sociological, historical, and cultural topics, focusing on the period between 1933-1945. They are interested in proposals that tackle one specific artefact, photo, document, or historical event, which allows for an inside perspective into the lives of victims, perpetrators, or bystanders, and thereby may challenge our traditional understanding of the macro historical aspects of the Holocaust. Though each submission should have its own relevant research questions, one shared, underlying question might be: To what extent can your research topic be linked to a key theme in Holocaust research? One example of the translation of conceptual links between a micro-historical element and the macrohistorical level could be: The Holocaust as a spatial phenomenon which could - for instance - be carried out by analyzing and micro-historically viewing a historical map of the ghetto in Czestochowa. Alternatively, one could approach the forensic turn in Holocaust research - for example - a study could be carried out by analysing material traces as a shoe worn on the death marches.

This interdisciplinary and transnational volume aims to include a variety of key themes such as:

- gender, space, materiality, sound and transfer
- submission can analyze Nazi Germany, the annexed and occupied territories but could also go beyond
- papers do not have to be limited on centers of mass murder and terror (like concentration and extermination camps, ghettos etc.)
- submission may focus on specific victim groups or roles (bystander, perpetrator etc.)

Please direct any questions and proposals to Frédéric Christin Zühlke Bonnesoeur and (microhistorical.perspectives@gmail.com) September 30th, 2020. Proposals should be written in English, include the name of author, academic affiliation, an abstract of proposed article (up to 300 words), and a brief biographical statement (50 words). Applicants will be notified by November 15th, 2020 and papers will be due February 15th, 2021. The volume will be peer-reviewed, as well as advised by a native English-speaking professor. We are currently working with de Gruyter, an internationally reputed publisher.

Contact Email:

microhistorical.perspectives@gmail.com

(Re)mapping Contemporary Migration and Mobilities: Trends and Challenges in Africa

Closing date: 30 October 2020

The Guest Editors of African and Black Diaspora: An International Journal announce the Call for Papers on (Re)mapping Contemporary Migration and Mobilities: Trends and Challenges in Africa.

The Call for Papers seek to shed light on the diverse dimensions and experiences of African migration and forced displacement within contemporary Africa in order to foster a wide-ranging debates and dialogues on the intersection between migration, mobility and contemporary economic and social conditions as well as the ways in which local actors such as states, humanitarian agencies (NGOs) play a critical role in the migration process within the continent.

The Guest Editors invite scholars, practitioners and policymakers to submit articles, theoretically informed and empirically grounded submissions that seek to redress the following issue(s):

- Migration and mobility policies of African states in the age of neoliberal globalization
- Livelihood strategies of migrants, refugees and internally displaced people in Africa
- African migrants in time of environmental and health crisis in Africa
- Gender and migration in Africa
- Border control, policing and African migrants
- Identity politics, xenophobia and African migrants and asylum seekers in Africa
- The criminalization of migrants and asylum seekers in Africa.
- Inclusion and exclusion of African migrants and refugees into host communities in Africa
- Local governance of migration in Africa

Perspective contributors are invited to submit proposals for articles in the form of a 400-500 word abstract by October 30, 2020. Authors will be notified regarding acceptance of abstracts by November 30, 2020. Authors of accepted abstracts will be expected to submit articles (no more than 8,000 words) by a strict deadline of May 30, 2021. Abstracts submitted should be titled and accompanied with the following on a separate page: the full name of the author, university affiliation, title of the abstract, mailing address and telephone number. All submissions and queries regarding the special issue should be directed to the Guest Editors: Dr. Fassil Demissie (fdemissi@depaul.edu) and Dr. Sadio Soukouna (sadiosoukouna@univ-paris1.fr)

African and Black Diaspora: An International Journal (Routledge) is devoted to a critical interrogation of the trans/national movements, locations and intersections of subjectivity within the African Diaspora in the context of globalization as well as in different discourses, and political and social contexts. The journal maps and investigates the theoretical and political shifts imposed by nation -states to provide a counter narrative of subject positions of people of the African Diaspora, grounded in cultural and political negotiations.

Contact Info:

Fassil Demissie, Editor

African and Black Diaspora: An International Jurnal (Routledge)

fdemissi@depaul.edu

URL: https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rabd20/current

Thematic issue of Práticas da História — Journal on Theory, Historiography and Uses of the Past: History and polemics: historiographical debates and the public space

Closing date: 15 November 2020

Ever since history became an academic knowledge, historiographical debates have been exceptional construction, condensation moments of dissensus, often resulting in historiographical turns. Controversies around specific themes have divided entire fields of knowledge production, bringing into light different, often contrasting conceptions, methodologies and practices of historical knowledge. Such debates were, at the same time, moments in which the description and interpretation of the past represented a public intervention in the present, in which the defence of a certain way of making sense of history was also a way of taking of sides in a specific contemporary political discussion. This is true for epistemological debates, such as the one that took post-modernism place around historiographical turns associated with it (the linguistic and cultural turns), as well as for public debates associated with specific historical events, such as the Historikerstreit or the discussion over the shadow cast by the colonial past on the present. Historiographical polemics were therefore moments in which historiographical knowledge had to confront in the public space other approaches to the past, thus making visible, and challenging, the paradigms that rule the historical discipline.

The editors are interested in proposals that focus on those moments where different conceptions of the past, as well as the relationship between the writing of history and the public space, were discussed. They want to engage with, among others, the following themes:

- History and the public space: the relation between academic knowledge and the public space, understood in a wide sense (squares, streets, social networks, television, cinema, books, etc.);
- Official history: curricula, school manuals and the construction of national narratives;
- Major polemics: among others, the Historikerstreit (debate over the Holocaust in the

- eighties in West Germany); the debate around the French Revolution at the bicentennial's commemoration (1989);
- National history, official memory and the politics of commemoration: the celebration of memory and the debates around official practices of memorialization; museums and other forms of monumentalizing history;
- History and justice: history under the eye of the juridical and the judicialization of history; debates around historical reparations, such as the ones related to the transatlantic slave trade or the restitution of objects to their countries of origin;
- Polemics on concepts: feudalism and manorialism; slavery and serfdom; fascism, totalitarianism and authoritarianism; colonialism and imperialism;
- Epistemological disputes: post-modernists vs. Marxists vs. realists and other empiricists;
- Historiography and methodologies: debates around biography as a genre or around cliometrics and other historiographical methods;
- Academic historiography and personal memory: the epistemic virtues of testimony;
- The rhetoric of polemics: satire, insults, parody and other linguistic resources;
- Forms of argumentation: science, authority, utility and other sources of legitimacy;
- Polemical subjectivities: the figure of the historian, the intellectual, the politician, the specialist, etc.
- Modes of constructing historical time and their influence in political debates.

Contact Email: praticashistoria@gmail.com
URL: http://www.praticasdahistoria.pt/pt/history-and-polemics-historiographical-debates-and-the-public-space-open/

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Public Humanities

Closing date: 14 August 2020

The National Park Service (NPS) and the National Park Foundation (NPF) invite scholars who are no more than Applicants must possess US citizenship and have a Ph.D. five years beyond receipt of the doctorate to apply for a in the humanities or humanistic social sciences by August one-year National Park Service Humanities Postdoctoral fellowship.

monuments, memorials, invented traditions, and quickly; and a strong interest in public scholarship. memory and how they are being contested as America Selective factors include the merit of scholarship and grapples with its historical consciousness and its grand promise, commitment to the public humanities, and narrative. This Fellowship will contribute to the effort to capacity to complete research successfully. Fellowship is bridge gaps between the academic and the popular to contingent upon a successful security background check. better tell the story of America from its roots laid out in our early founding documents to the present day.

Specifically, the Fellow will focus on the act of publichumanities2020@nationalparks.org traditions and examine them from their creation to the August 14, 2020. present day or from their creation today to the past. A Include: series of essential questions framing the research could include:

- when and why were certain legacies secured?
- Who benefited? Who resisted?
- How have they been used over time to express grief or joy, dissent or consent, power or subordination, and other values?
- How have they been designed to include, exclude, and identify, politicize, unify or divide?
- How do these symbols help us as a nation contextualize our evolving value systems as we strive for a "more perfect union"?

Products will be designed in consultation with National Park Service staff and will include items such as:

- 1. Applied research relevant to the theme of the fellowship.
- 2. Presentations to NPS staff service-wide via online
- 3. Interpretive or Educational products based on their scholarly research.

4. Career-focused research and product. The Fellow will dedicate up to 20 percent of their time to pursue research on a career-centered project.

Mellon Public 2020. Applicants must demonstrate comfort with collaboratively working and boundaries: excellent research. This Postdoctoral Fellow will thus examine public places, communication skills; flexibility and the capacity to learn

Application: Applications must be submitted in pdf format with commemoration. The Fellow will select public places, subject line: last name, first name - 2020 Public monuments, memorials, ephemera, and invented Humanities Fellowship. For best consideration, apply by

- 1. cover letter stating interest and vision for the fellowship (letters may include a summary of the How have people appropriated these places and dissertation, a statement of personal research interests memorials to support their own belief systems? How, and plans, discussion of past engagement with public humanities, discussion of willingness to participate fully in NPS research and education programs);
 - 2. comprehensive curriculum vitae;
 - 3. writing sample accessible to the general public;
 - 4. confirmation of Ph.D. award by August 1, 2020;
 - 5. three letters of recommendation. The letters of recommendation should be sent directly by the recommender to

publichumanities2020@nationalparks.org with the subject line: LETTER last name, first name - 2020-Public Humanities.

The one-year Fellowship begins October 1, 2020 and ends September 30, 2021. The location is Philadelphia, PA, with potential for remote work. NPS will provide the Fellow with a workstation. Compensation is \$63,650, plus a \$7000 allowance for health benefits, and \$3000 for research costs (conferences and publications). Travel funding is provided separately. The Fellowship may not be held concurrently with any other fellowship or grant or employment (part-time or full-time).

Postdoc Researcher: Global History of Material Culture and Technology, 1850-2000

Darmstadt University of Technology, History **Funded by the European Research Council** (ERC)

Project leader: Professor Mikael Hård Closing date: 21 August 2020

The Technical University of Darmstadt Darmstadt), near Frankfurt, Germany, announces a project. It is possible to submit this book as a two-year post-doctoral research position, beginning 1 Habilitationsschrift to the Department of History and October 2020. They welcome applications from Social Sciences at the TU Darmstadt. Project talented and diligent historians of all genders who are communication takes place in English, and the about to develop an independent research profile in applicant's book also has to be written in this the global history of technology and material culture.

The successful candidate will become a member of a investigate the persistent use of indigenous sources already. technologies along with globalized ones, as well as the emergence of hybrid solutions. The goal is to increase Your electronic application—written in English hot.eu

Applications are accepted by historians who have completed their PhD studies and received their URL: diploma. Only applicants with very good or excellent the project global hot/index.de.jsp credentials and grades will be considered. This announcement is only directed at scholars who have

started to work on a new field of research in Latin American, Asian, or African history of technology. Applicants need to have experience from archival research in one of these regions; they also ought to show active presence in scholarly networks in the region. It is expected that the applicant will publish a (TU second book by the end of her/his appointment in the language. The position is intended to further the scientific development of the successful applicant.

larger project called "A Global History of Technology, The project provides funds for travels, publications, 1850–2000" (GLOBAL-HOT). The project investigates and research assistance. Since it is momentarily hardly the history of material culture and artifacts in various possible to carry out research trips overseas, they parts of the world from 1850 to 2000. The researchers expect applicants to have gathered most of the relevant

our understanding of the relationship between the should include a CV and an extended prospectus of development and use of technologies in the West your book project. they expect your project description (Europe and North America) on the one hand and the to include information about which material you have East and the South (Asia, Africa, Latin America) on the gathered and to which extent the sources have already other. The project draws on a wide array of sources been treated; please add a working plan for the coming that go beyond written material in official archives— two years. Please attach degree certificates and further including artifacts, artwork, and images, along with documents that support your qualification for the interviews, oral sources, and the media. For further position, such as language certificates, and transcripts. information, please visit our homepage: www.global- All documents need to be merged into one single pdf file that does not exceed 10 MB and sent to globalhot@pg.tu-darmstadt.de

https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/global-hot/

New York University Abu Dhabi, NYUAD Institute / Humanities Research Fellowships for the Study of the Arab World. Call for applications 2021—2022

Closing date: 1 October 2020.

who wish to contribute to the vibrant research culture of workshop funded by the Research Institute, and support NYUAD's Saadiyat campus to apply for a residential for travel to and from Abu Dhabi. fellowship, starting September 2021. The Institute welcomes applications from scholars working in all For questions, please reach out to: areas of the Humanities related to the study of the Arab world, its rich literature and history, its cultural and Alexandra artistic heritage, and its manifold connections with other alexandra.sandu@nyu.edu cultures. This includes, among others, Islamic Intellectual History and Culture, any areas of particular Url: https://nyuad.nyu.edu/en/research/centers-labs- relevance to the MENA region, as well as projects and-projects/humanities-research-fellowshipthematically connected to existing research projects and program.html initiatives at NYUAD's divisions of Arts & Humanities and Social Sciences (see https://nyuad.nyu.edu/en/ research.html). Both distinguished scholars with an established reputation and promising scholars who are at the beginning of their career can apply for a research fellowship. The program awards one-year senior fellowships and one-/ two-year postdoctoral fellowships.

fellow Each receives a competitive stipend commensurate with experience, housing or housing

allowance, health insurance, work/office space on campus, full access to NYUAD's library facilities (with close connections to NYU's main library in New York), The NYU Abu Dhabi Research Institute invites scholars research allowance, an opportunity to host a small

Sandu (Assistant Director): Program

Forsyth Postdoctoral Fellowship (African Diaspora or Native American Arts and Visual Cultures)

Closing date: 15 December 2020 at 11:59 **PM Eastern Time**

The Department of the History of Art at the • University of Michigan invites applications for the • Forsyth Postdoctoral Fellowship, dedicated this • year to Afro-Diasporic, African American, and • Native American/ Indigenous/First Nations arts • and visual cultures. Especially welcome are • applicants proposing new critical conversations • across disciplines, connecting art history to the other creative realms.

The one-year appointment begins September 1, 2021, with possible one-year renewal. The Forsyth https://apply.interfolio.com/77637 Fellow will teach two courses per year. They will work with a mentor, who will help open doors to the UM community, providing guidance as requested or needed. The application requires a

PhD in a relevant specialization, acquired within past five years, is required before appointment. Applicants should provide the following materials via Interfolio:

- Cover letter
- CV
- Research plan
- Teaching statement
- Dissertation abstract
- Writing sample (35 pages maximum)
- Three letters of reference, solicited and collected via Interfolio

environment, philosophical humanities, medicine, For questions regarding the position, please science and technology, religion, museology, and contact Jessica Pattison (Executive Secretary, U-M Department of the History of Art) at histartexecsec@umich.edu.

CONTACT US



CONTRIBUTE

We would be especially interested in hearing from you about events and opportunities. Contributions in the form of short reviews of conferences, exhibitions, publications or other events/material that you have attended/read are also welcome. Please note that advertisements for any non-HRG events, jobs, or programs do not imply endorsement of them.

Our Editors

Andrea Kocsis On behalf of the Heritage Research Group

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