

ZMO-Wintercolloquium 2023/2024

Materialities of Empire and Nation-State: Experiences in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East

26 October 2023 – 21 March 2024
Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33, 14129 Berlin

The ZMO winter colloquium engages with materialities and their everyday experience in the context of empires and post-imperial or post-colonial statehood. In doing so, it asks crucial methodological questions about the scope of materiality and the nature of archives required to study such experiences in the disciplines of humanities and social sciences.

Both empires and their successors states become visible and tangible in material form: through built infrastructure, practices of documenting and bureaucracy, and discursive socio-cultural productions.

Placing actors on centre-stage, the lectures in this colloquium will critically engage with how materiality can be a fruitful lens to explore the experiences of both those who design and frame forms of control (e.g. state authorities), as well as those who engage with, negotiate or even subvert them in the everyday.

Lectures will take place in a hybrid format.

No registration needed for participation on site.

Registration for online participation: <https://tinyurl.com/zmo-winter-colloq-23-24>

26 October 2023, 5 pm

Materialities of Early Colonial Domination in the Sahel and the Sahara Niger: 1898-1906
Camille Lefebvre, CNRS and EHESS Paris

30 November 2023, 5 pm

Belonging, Suffering and the Body of Others. Practices of 'We-Formation' during Mourning Rituals among Shia Muslims in Myanmar
Judith Beyer, Universität Konstanz

25 January 2024, 5 pm

Material Life in Mid Nineteenth Century Damascus: Christian Compensation Claims after the 1860 Massacres
Eugene Rogan, University of Oxford

8 February 2024, 5 pm

The New Civilizational Project: Transnational Material Infrastructures and the Mainstreaming of Hindu Nationalism
Srirupa Roy, Universität Göttingen

21 March 2024, 5 pm

Materialities of the Occult in Tatar Manuscripts, 19th-20th Centuries
Alfrid Bustanov, Universiteit van Amsterdam