

Historical research on seascapes in the pre-modern age has recently been flourishing. Due to the long-lasting impact of Fernand Braudel's *opus magnum*, the Mediterranean has often been considered a paradigmatic case. Braudel's model also influenced the dynamic research on connective structures within the pre-modern Indian Ocean and its adjacent seas from the Red Sea to the East Asian water-scapes.

On the one hand, these major maritime spaces of the Old World thus offer many chances for comparative approaches and the exploration of new methods in maritime studies. On the other hand, there have also been intensive relations between the various parts of this Indo-Mediterranean maritime world. Examples for such contacts reach from Ptolemaic times over the commercial networks of the Geniza merchants to the European expansion of the Early Modern Period.

This conference aims at developing new perspectives on transmarine relations, on their changing modes, their agents and principal spatial patterns. It will especially focus on two aspects of crucial importance. One of them is the role of transition zones and passages between seas (*entre mers*), be they maritime straits or terrestrial spaces. How and when did such intersection points develop into actual hubs of long distance communication?

At the same time the sea offered the potential to forge firm links between distant coasts, thus creating spaces *oultre-mer*, our second focus. To what extent did trade relations, migration or the exercise of sea power contribute to such developments?

Viewing seascapes from this perspective will contribute to embedding both terrestrial and maritime subspaces into more comprehensive structures and networks of connectivity within the Indo-Mediterranean.

CONTACT

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ENTRE MERS – OUTRE-MER: SPACES, MODES AND AGENTS OF INDO-MEDITERRANEAN CONNECTIVITY (3rd CENTURY BCE – 18th CENTURY)



International Workshop
November 27-28, 2014

Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

ENTRE MERS – OUTRE-MER: SPACES, MODES AND AGENTS OF INDO-MEDITERRANEAN CONNECTIVITY (3rd CENTURY BCE – 18th CENTURY)

PROGRAMME

Thursday, November 27

**Venue: Alte Universität, Senatssaal
Grabengasse 1, 69117 Heidelberg**

14.00-14.30
Nikolas Jaspert / Sebastian Kolditz (Heidelberg)
Opening and Introduction

Section I: Connecting Lands and Seas: Concepts, Agents and Commodities

Chair: Joseph Maran (Heidelberg)

14.30-15.10
Joachim Friedrich Quack (Heidelberg)
Incense, the Alphabet and other Elements. On the Move of Persons, Commodities and Ideas between Egypt and Arabia

Coffee Break

15.30-16.10
Søren Michael Sindbæk (Aarhus)
Maritime Networks and Urbanism: Comparing Early Medieval Emporia in East Africa and Northern Europe

16.10-16.50
Ranabir Chakravarti (New Delhi)
Two Maritime Merchants of the 12th Century CE: Ali Mansur b. al Fawfali and FDYR: Gleanings from the Cairo Geniza

Coffee Break

17.10-17.50
Daniel König (Heidelberg)
From East to West and West to East. Reflections on the Medieval Arabic-Islamic Documentation of Western Europe

17.50-18.30
Christoph Mauntel (Heidelberg)
Bounded by Waters. Oceans and Seas as Means of Ordering the World

19.00
Public Evening Lecture

David Abulafia (Cambridge)
Mediterranean Islands and the Meaning of Mediterranean History

**Venue: Neue Universität, Hörsaal 14
Universitätsplatz, 69117 Heidelberg**

Friday, November 28

**Venue: Heidelberg Center for American Studies
Hauptstraße 120, 69117 Heidelberg**

Section II: Long Distance Maritime Communication and its Effects

Chair: Susanne Enderwitz (Heidelberg)

9.30-10.10
Alexandra von Lieven (Berlin)
Trade Contacts and Cultural Exchange between Egypt and India in the Ptolemaic and Roman Period

10.10-10.50
Raimund Schulz (Bielefeld)
Oceanic Sea Routes to India – the Western World's Great Dream from Antiquity to Columbus

Coffee Break

11.10-11.50
Mona Kirsch (Heidelberg)
Expansion in the Mediterranean: Sicily's Role in the Foreign and Economic Policies of the Angevins and Aragonese

11.50-12.30
Gita Dharampal-Frick (Heidelberg)
Transcultural Networks from the Arabian Sea to the South China Sea, 1000-1800: Continuities and Transformations

Lunch Break

Section III: Maritime Hubs: Straits, Harbours and Islands

Chair: Gerrit Jasper Schenk (Darmstadt)

14.00-14.40
Andrea Jördens (Heidelberg)
Roman Alexandria – Queen of the Mediterranean and the Arabian Seas

14.40-15.20
Iván Armenteros Martínez (Aix-Marseille)
The Canary Islands as a Space of Inter-Connectivity between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic

Coffee Break

15.40-16.20
Luís Adão da Fonseca (Porto)
Straits, Capes and Islands as Points of Confluence in the Organization of the Portuguese Ocean Route between the Atlantic and the East

16.20-17.00
Susan Richter (Heidelberg)
The Street of Malakka – Interdependent Cultures of Trade Law

17.00-17.30
General Debate and Conclusion