

# Fall 2018

## THE LOUIS FRIEBERG CENTER for East Asian Studies

**Director:** Prof. Michal Biran

**Academic Committee**

**Chair:** Prof. Nissim Otmazgin

Dr. Orna Naftali

Prof. Yuri Pines

Dr. Galia Press-Bar-Nathan

Prof. Gideon Shelach

Prof. Ben-Ami Shillony

Prof. Yishai Yafeh

Dr. Lihi Yariv-Laor

**Newsletter Editor:**

Ms. Michal Saminski

Ms. Lee Ashuri

### *In this issue*

- Report on The 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Asian Studies in Israel (ASI18)
- Spotlight on our post-doctoral fellows
- Events' highlights 2017-18
- Forthcoming events
- Scholarships 2019-20

## Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to present this new issue of the newsletter of the Louis Frieberg Center for East Asian Studies. The newsletter highlights some of the Center's activities over the past academic year (2017-18), and introduces next year's main events. Once more, the scale and variety of the activities presented below attests to the Center's burgeoning activity and the growing interest in Asia in general and East Asia in particular among the academic community in Israel.

Founded in 2006, the Frieberg Center is an interdisciplinary forum of faculty at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem aiming to promote and broaden the teaching and research of East Asia. The Center has set itself the ambitious goal of establishing the Hebrew University as a world-renowned hub of East Asian Studies by catalyzing high-level research; promoting international collaboration, creative teaching experiences, and a wide variety of cultural and scientific activities; as well as developing scholarly infrastructure.

The central event in East Asian Studies this year has been the 14th biennial conference of Asian Studies in Israel (ASI18), that took place at the Hebrew University on May 23-24, 2018. With more than 200 participants, half of them from abroad (Asia, Europe, North America), 48 panels and a rich cultural program, the fascinating and diverse event attracted a huge audience and attested to the internationalization of Asian Studies in Israel. Indeed, such internationalization has been the guiding light of the Frieberg Center since its founding, and has considerably developed in the recent years due to our successful post-doc recruitment, our cooperation with the ERC-project "Mobility, Empire and Cross-Cultural Contacts in Mongol Eurasia" and the Asian Sphere program and research institutions in Israel and abroad, as well as our encouragement of touring seminars and language courses in Asia (for the most recent seminar in Japan see [here](#)).

As in previous years, this issue introduces our post-docs (three this year!), as well as reviews the main

international workshops and conferences supported by the Center. This year's major conventions (apart from the ASI18) dealt with *Migrations in Mongol Eurasia*; *The Medieval Climate Anomaly*; *East Asia's Security Challenges*; and *Introducing Indonesia: History, Politics Culture*. This was also a very intensive year for Korean Studies at the Hebrew University, featuring not only several Korea-related conferences but also a rich cultural program, including the Arirang event (a performance of Korean folk song and dance) in February and a Korean festival in May. Indeed, this year has its share of cultural events, including the Asia and Japan days, the 10th (!) anniversary of the Shodo workshop (Japanese calligraphy) and the various China-related activities initiated by the HUJI Confucius Institute. The annual employment fair (Road to Asia 2018) organized by the joint program for Asian Studies and Business Administration also won great success.

Several interesting events are already planned for the coming year, notably a Japanese photography exhibition (October 2018); the first Israeli international conference on Taiwan (November 28-29, 2018); and an international symposium on Early Chinese Historiography (May 12-16, 2019). Special events will also celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Chinese May 4th movement and the 50th anniversary of the Department of Asian Studies at HUJI.

In terms of congratulations, it is a pleasure to congratulate the Center's fellow, Prof. Reuven Amitai, who has just received an honorary PhD from the Mongolian National University for his contribution to promoting Mongolian studies worldwide.

We would also like to thank Ms. Michal Saminski, our administrative officer and the newsletter co-editor, and to wish her success in her fellowship in China; Mr. Edi Naiman, our designer and website administrator, and to wish him a wonderful year in Taiwan; and Ms. Lee Ashuri, our new administrator and the second co-editor of this issue.

Lastly, with this issue we pass the baton to our colleagues, Profs. Yuri Pines and

Gideon Shelach, who will be the new director of the Center and head of its academic committee respectively. We are sure that they will bring the Center to new heights and wish them the best of luck in their new jobs.

With best wishes for a wonderful new year, academic and otherwise,

Prof. Michal Biran

Prof. Nissim Otmazgin



Prof. Michal Biran, Director



Prof. Nissim Otmazgin, Chair of the Academic Committee

## CONTACT US

The Louis Frieberg Center for East-Asian Studies, Rm. 6328, Faculty of Humanities, Mt. Scopus, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem 91905, Israel.

Tel/Fax: +972(0)2-5881371

Email: [ecacenter@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:ecacenter@mail.huji.ac.il)

Web: <http://www.ecacenter.huji.ac.il>



# The 14<sup>th</sup> biennial Conference of Asian Studies in Israel (ASI18)

by Ms. Tal Nizan,  
MA student, Dept. of Asian Studies



On May 23-24, 2018,  
the Hebrew University  
held the 14th biennial

Conference of Asian Studies in Israel (ASI18) at the Maierdsdorf Faculty Club, Mount Scopus Campus, the largest and most diverse conference of Asian studies ever to take place in Israel. The biennial conferences of Asian Studies in Israel were launched in 2001 to address the needs of the growing community of scholars and research students in the field. The initial goal was to facilitate exchange of ideas among Israeli scholars, but soon enough the conferences were

transformed  
into

international bilingual events, reflecting thereby the intensification of ties between the Israeli academic community and colleagues from Asia, Europe and North America.

Organized by Prof. Michal Biran (together with Prof. Nissim Otmazgin, and Drs. Orna Naftali, Jooyeon Rhee and Eviatar Shulman) and convened by Ms. Tal Nizan, an M.A. student at the department of Asian studies, the conference brought together over

200 Israeli and international scholars from all over the world. Its 48 panels covered an astonishing variety of fields – from early China's food to Jews in Central Asia; from Esoteric Buddhism to North Korean foreign policy; from migration in Southeast Asia to the legacy of the Mongol Empire; from Japanese warrior culture to post-colonial India, contemporary China,

Asian documentary films and much more...

The concluding panel of the conference, named "Asia is Here! Asia in the Israeli Experience", invited four local experts in their fields (tourism, business, Vipassana and food culture) to deliberate the various aspects of Israel-Asia relations and Asian cultural influences on Israel. This panel in particular attracted a great crowd of students and other participants who were excited to hear the panelists' thoughts and opinions.

The conference was held in conjunction with the Korea Week at the university and was accompanied by several other academic and cultural events that made May 2018 a uniquely Asian month at the Hebrew University. The conference included also a performance of a Korean musical, Jessie's diary, performed by the BoreNabi Theatre Group; a photo exhibition from Taiwan devoted to the Hakka minority took

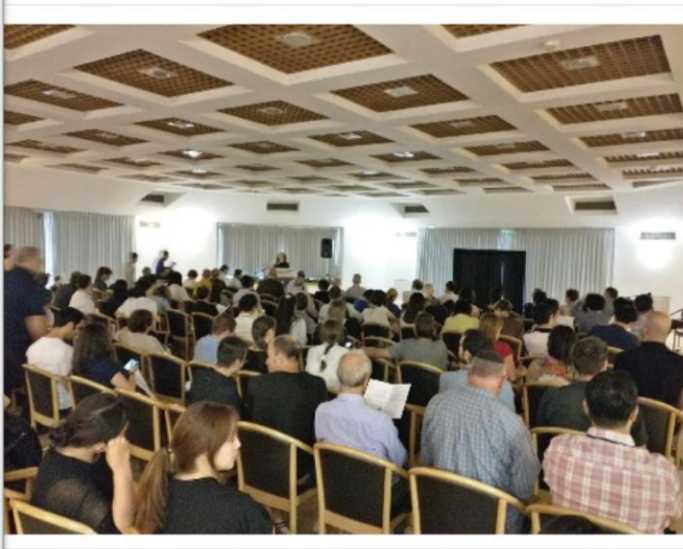
place in the Central Library, and two international workshops, Compendium for Ruling the World: Mirrors for Princes between East and West and Science, Morality and Gender in Korea, preceded the main event.

The conference owes its success to the generous support of the following bodies, who supplemented the Frieberg Center's funding: The Confucius Institute at the Hebrew University; the Korea Foundation; the Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace; the Hakka Affairs Council; the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations; the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the State of Israel; the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Tel Aviv; the Sidney M. Edelstein Center for the History and Philosophy of Science, Technology and Medicine at the Hebrew University; the Bukharan Jews Research Center at Yad Ben Zvi Institute; and the Hebrew University's Conference Fund. It also benefitted greatly from the many students, most of them volunteers, who

assisted in the organization before and throughout the conference.

The conference's success attests to the flourishing of Asian studies in Israel in general and at the Hebrew University in particular and to their growing internationalization.

For the full program and abstracts, see the conference website: <http://asi18-huji.co.il/en/>



AS  
I  
2018



# Meet Our Post-Doctoral Fellows

## Dr. Rebecca Robinson, Frieberg Center Post-Doctoral Fellow



I am Rebecca Robinson, a postdoctoral fellow at the Frieberg Center for the 2017-18 academic year. I completed my PhD at McGill University in 2017. While my primary field of research is in early Chinese history, I also work comparatively between ancient China and the ancient Mediterranean. My dissertation, "Cult and Calendars in the Ancient Empires of Qin, Han, and Rome," examines the ways in which imperially promulgated reforms to religious institutions and worship of the extra-human contributed to the consolidation of imperial rule, culminating under the reigns of Augustus in Rome and Emperor Wu of Han.

While I have continued to work on this project this year, I have also, more excitingly, begun working on my second project, an investigation of rituals directed at the environment in early China. This project is an examination in the ways in which environmental rituals, such as prayers for rain, seasonal sacrifices, and offerings to nature spirits, were a fundamental part of the cultural construction of nature in early China. I propose that this type of ritual action was an important way in which the early Chinese obtained knowledge about the natural world around them. I couldn't have found a better place to undertake this research. Not only have I had the

opportunity to work with world renowned specialists in my field, but scholars at the Frieberg Center and other departments of the Hebrew University are actively engaged in comparative and collaborative research about the environment in the ancient world. Shortly after I arrived in Israel, I was invited to attend an international workshop on the Societal Consequences of Climate Change, which included not only inspiring papers by scholars from diverse fields, but also excursions to important archaeological and ecological sites in Israel. This workshop was one of many that took place at the Hebrew University, and at other universities in Israel, that have introduced me to new colleagues and collaborators, and inspired my research.

I have been very impressed by the many conferences, workshops, lectures, and other events related to Asian Studies at the university. Certainly, one of the highlights of my time at the Frieberg Center was the Bi-Annual Asian Studies in Israel Conference, hosted by the Hebrew University in March 2018. The conference brought together over two hundred international participants, among them many scholars of early China.

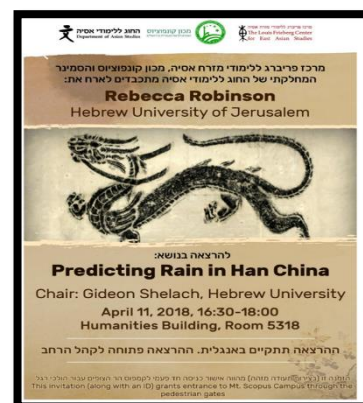
Fortuitously, this year there also happened to be several specialists of early China in residence at both the Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University, allowing us to set up a Han China research group, where we share our research, discuss new books and

methodologies, and review each other's manuscripts. While the members of this group will not all remain in Israel, we envision this to be a long-term collaboration.

During the second semester, I had the opportunity to teach an MA seminar on Chinese environmental history.

One of the most inspiring characteristics of the university is the collaboration between departments, and this course was no exception. My students included those trained in contemporary China, Chinese history, and environmental studies, and I was very impressed with their enthusiasm for the material – our weekly conversations were always stimulating and thought-provoking. Interdisciplinary collaboration, especially in environmental studies, is essential to the development of the field, and I hope that other universities also embrace this collaborative model.

My year in Israel has been a fantastic academic experience, and while I am looking forward to taking up my next position, I will miss the vibrant academic community (and great weather!) in Israel, and I look forward to continuing to collaborate with my colleagues here.





## Dr. Uri Kaplan, Frieberg Center Post-Doctoral Fellow

It's hard to tell whether it was due to the clear Mediterranean skies or to the proximity to the ancestors, but I have had a particularly productive academic year as a postdoctoral fellow at the Frieberg Center for East Asian Studies in 2017-8. Not only was I finally able to finish up my first monograph, but I managed to make significant progress on my second book project as well. The kind hospitality of the faculty and staff at the Center and at the Asian Studies Department of the Hebrew University has made my stay not only fruitful but also comfortable and enjoyable. Not to mention that the stunning desert scenery surrounding the campus can surely inspire anyone to deep scholarly contemplation.

I left Israel after receiving my B.A. degree in order to pursue graduate studies in Korea and in the United States.



"Now, after close to fifteen years abroad, the generous fellowship of the Frieberg Center provided me with the invaluable opportunity to return and continue my research and writing in the homeland."

After spending a couple of years as a postdoctoral researcher at Seoul National University and writing several articles on contemporary Buddhism and Confucianism on the peninsula, I finally set out this year to restructure my Duke Ph.D. dissertation into a publishable book manuscript. It is somewhat provocatively titled "What Should Buddhist Monks Know about Buddhism?" and it centers on an analysis of Buddhist monastic curriculums and pedagogical systems in Korea from the 17th century to the present. I hope to see it out in print soon.

For most of the past year, however, I have been working on a new project that I am very much excited about, which deals with Buddhist apologetic literature in East Asia. I completed two full annotated translations from Classical Chinese of Buddhist polemical essays from 12th-century China and 15th-century Korea, working towards a book, tentatively titled "The Buddhist Response to the Neo-Confucians." It aims to survey the various Buddhist essays written as a defense and counterattack against the critiques of the Neo-Confucians, and to analyze their polemical strategies. The Frieberg Center at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem hosts a truly vibrant intellectual community. It sponsors such a great number and wide variety of stimulating special lectures, seminars, workshops, movie-screenings, and other

cultural events, that it is close to impossible to participate in them all.

Aside from the bi-weekly lectures by leading visiting scholars from around the world, a good number of international seminars, and the biannual Israeli Asian Studies conference, this year the Center also organized a calligraphy studio, Japanese art exhibitions, Korean dance performances, and even a Soju drinking workshop. I especially enjoyed participating in the fascinating talks and meditation sessions lead by two Tibetan Buddhist monks who were invited to Jerusalem by the Center.

Fortunately, I will continue working at the Frieberg Center for another year. In it, I plan to develop my research and finish my second book, and hope to strengthen collaboration with the faculty and the University. I am especially excited about the opportunity to teach two courses and get more involved with the students of the Asian Studies Department. In the first semester I will be teaching a class on Korean religions and culture, aimed to enhance the growing Korean Studies program in Jerusalem. In the second semester I will be teaching a joint graduate seminar for students of both the Hebrew and Haifa Universities, as part of the special "Asian Sphere" program. The course will focus on the interaction between religions and modernity in East Asia—a topic that I have paid much attention to and written about—and I look forward to discussing it with the students.



## Dr. Selina Orly, Frieberg Center Post-Doctoral Fellow



Shortly after graduating from the University of Hong Kong with a PhD in Modern China Studies, I was awarded the 2016-2017 Lady Davis Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at HUJI Department of Asian Studies as well as granted an extension with the support of the Louis Frieberg Center for East Asian Studies. I view these two years of my postdoctoral fellowship as crucially important to my developing career: they provided a stable and nurturing research environment; exposed me to influences from leading Israeli and international China scholars and scholarship; and significantly enriched my pool of China and Asia knowledge.

I work in the broad fields of modern-contemporary Chinese cultural and intellectual trends where my most immediate professional concerns center on 20th and 21st century Chinese society—its many transformations and contestations. I retain a particular focus on: the interplay between modernity and tradition; the dynamics of cultural nationalism as contrasted with state nationalism; current cultural politics and its concurrent intellectual shifts. Many of these interests are reflected in my PhD research which examined the ways in which Hu Shi (1891-1962), China's foremost twentieth-century intellectual and political leader, reinterpreted (reorganized) Chinese intellectual and cultural tradition (national learning) to ensure the nation's 'Renaissance' -- an historically-informed transition into social, cultural and political modernity. During my Lady Davis-Louis Frieberg postdoctoral fellowship I furthered this research and enlarged its focus to include concerns more directly pertinent

to current PRC cultural and intellectual politics.

My current orientation towards contemporary China during both years of postdoctoral fellowship was inspired by Dr. Naftali to whom I am indebted for professional mentorship. Dr. Naftali guided me expertly through the HUJI bureaucracy and my research benefited from consulting her vast knowledge on contemporary Chinese society. Dr. Naftali was always responsive and consistently encouraging. Her mentoring style was well-attuned to my early career academic needs.

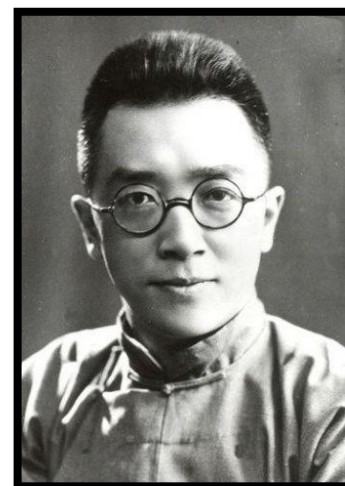
Apart from benefiting from closely working with Dr. Naftali --- my HUJI postdoctoral research was significantly enhanced by my participating in different events organized by HUJI's Department of Asian Studies and its affiliated scholars. For example, in December 2016 I took part in a seminar titled *After 100 Years: Revisiting Hu Shi and the New Culture Movement* chaired by Professor Pines. Through this platform I met acclaimed scholars with matching interests --- gained insights into topics crucial to my research agenda --- and was able to implement these into ongoing projects.

Furthermore, participation in the May 2018 ASI conference here at HUJI was another instance that significantly enhanced my postdoctoral studies. The panel on *Chinese Political Thought in times of Change* was composed of leading Israeli scholars in the field and provided an opportunity for sharing views on relevant topics. I am currently finishing an article on the turn of the twentieth and twenty-first century PRC political thought that germinated as a result of my ASI2018 participation.

Apart from benefiting from connections with leading China scholars from Israel and abroad through HUJI-organized events, I have been particularly impressed by the diversity of HUJI Department of Asian Studies' scholars. I

have never studied or worked in an institution that combines the diverse array of academics as dynamically as HUJI's Department of Asian Studies—spanning the continent, centuries and academic disciplines: from Japan and Korea, through China, India and Indonesia; from ancient and medieval to current times, from archeology, classical studies, history to anthropology to social sciences— all these perspectives are present and thriving side by side here at HUJI. This diversity in topics and disciplines is nicely reflected in departmental seminars, which I always look forward to and in which I learn much about China (and Asia more broadly) from the diverse perspectives showcased. The seminars are another truly wonderful benefit of the postdoctoral fellowships.

As they slowly draw to their end, I look back at my Lady Davis-Louis Frieberg postdoctoral years at the HUJI Department of Asian Studies as the key significant point in my developing career to date. But I also look forward to furthering my prospects here at the Hebrew University next year— and to continue benefitting from exposure to its scholars, facilities and events— as a research fellow of its Truman Institute.





# "Hakka Journey- Taiwan's Romantic Route 3 as a Formosa Landscape"



Between May 21-June 4, 2018, the Bloomfield Library for the Humanities and Social Sciences hosted a special photo exhibition depicting the life of the Hakka people in rural Taiwan. About 40 black and white ethnographic pictures, taken between 1950-1990 by leading Taiwanese photographers, unveiled some of the rituals of the Hakka people and the landscape where they live, opening the door to learning about the heterogeneity of Taiwanese society. At the opening ceremony, Mr. Paul Kuoboug Chang, representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Israel, emphasized the growing academic relations between Israel and Taiwan while Profs. Wei An Chang and Mei-Ling Pan of the National Chiao-Tung University explained the academic and cultural importance of the pictures. The exhibition was supported by the Hakka Affairs Council and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Israel. The exhibition was made possible thanks to the support of Prof. Michael Hsiao of Academia Sinica and Mr. Harry Chen.

## Korea Week, May 21 to May 27

by Dr. Jooyeon Rhee, Head of Korean Studies Program at the Dept. of Asian Studies

Students and faculty in Korean studies program collaborated to promote Korean studies and culture through Korea Week, a one-week event that presented various forms of traditional and contemporary Korean culture sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Korea. With thanks to the students of the

Korean studies program, the week attracted large audiences. It aimed to reach people outside the university campus, to share information and knowledge about Korea as well as the Korean studies program at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. It offered various workshops on Korean food, beverages, calligraphy, cosmetics, and food tasting; and participants had opportunities to have hands-on experience with Korean cultural forms and interacted with students and faculty in the program.





# "Mobility, Empire and Cross Cultural Contacts in Mongol Eurasia"

by Dr. Jonathan Brack, The Martin Buber Society of Fellows in the Humanities and Social Sciences

The 13th- and 14th-century expansion, consolidation, and subsequent dissolution of the Mongol Empire generated a huge amount of human migrations, followed by the mobilization of animals, artifacts, ideas and knowledge across Asia. The ripples of these movements continued to exert their influence long after the Mongol Empire collapsed in the mid-14th century. On December 18-20, 2017, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem hosted the closing conference of the five-year-long ERC project "Mobility, Empire and Cross Cultural Contacts in Mongol Eurasia." The conference "Migrations in Mongol Eurasia: People, Ideas, Artifacts," co-organized by Professor Michal Biran and Dr Jonathan Brack (Post-Doctoral Fellow, The Martin Buber Society of Fellows in Humanities and the Social Sciences) comprised close to 50 participants, including nearly 30 international guests.

The aim of the conference was to explore the various facets of human mobility and migration, ranging from tribal migrations to marriage alliances and military refugees. Among the many highlights of the conference was a panel on "A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Black Death in the Mongol Empire: The Routes of Transmission." This exciting panel brought together a diverse body of experts – a medical and an

environmental historian, an archeologist and an expert on the history of the Golden Horde, in order to examine new approaches to the global pandemic that left millions dead behind it all across Asia, Europe and the Middle East. One main question the panel examined was the role of the Mongol nomads and their campaigns in facilitating the Plague's fatal dissemination from its eastern

point of origin in China. Another panel, "Mapping the itineraries of sciences in Mongol Eurasia," examined how scientific innovations and knowledge, especially in the fields of astronomy and medicine, were transferred, appropriated and exchanged across Mongol Asia and beyond, ending up in the Byzantine Empire and even contributing to significant scientific developments in Europe. A special poster

session

## MIGRATIONS IN MONGOL EURASIA: PEOPLE, IDEAS, ARTIFACTS

December 18-20, 2017

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mt. Scopus Campus  
Mandel Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 530









**MONDAY: December 18**

**Panel 1:** Trade, Migration, and Diaspora in Mongol Eurasia

**Keynote Lecture:** Kim Hodong, *Empire on the Move: A Study of the Mongol Imperial Court (the Ordo)*

**Poster Session**

**TUESDAY: December 19**

**Panel 2:** Tribal Migration and the Creation of New Elites in Yuan China

**Panel 3:** Sufis, Scholars, and Others: Intellectual Migrations and Exchanges

**Panel 4:** A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Black Death in the Mongol Empire

**Panel 5:** Mapping the Itineraries of Sciences in Mongol Eurasia

**WEDNESDAY: December 20**

**Panel 6:** Coins, Carpets, and Ceramics: Material Migrations

**Panel 7:** Refugees in Mongol Eurasia

**Panel 8:** Marriages as Migration

**Panel 9:** Roundtable: Migrations of Memories- Memories of Migrations

CONVENERS: MICHAL BIRAN AND JONATHAN BRACK

For the full program, details and abstracts see <http://mongol.huji.ac.il>.








was organized and dedicated to the recent work of younger generations of scholars.

The conference treated the Mongol Empire in its full Eurasian context, analyzing it not only as a chapter in the annals of China, Iran, Russia or Inner Asia, but as a multi-faceted phenomenon in its own right – one that combined elements from various imperial traditions and made them its own – and which has had a broad and enduring impact on world history.

In addition to the Freiberg Center, the conference was co-sponsored by the ERC, The Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, and the Confucius Institute at the Hebrew University.

For details and abstracts see [here](#).



## Introducing Indonesia: History, Politics, Culture

by Prof. Ronit Ricci, Associate Professor, Departments of Asian Studies and Religion



A first of its kind Israeli conference took place in late November 2017 at the Hebrew University's Edmund Safra campus. The conference was dedicated to Indonesia which, with its thousands of islands, rising economic importance, hundreds of languages, rich performative traditions, and its significance as the world's 3rd largest democracy, 4th most populous nation, and home to the world's largest Muslim community, is no doubt worthy of study and engagement. And yet, due to historical and political factors, foremost among them the absence of diplomatic relations between Israel and Indonesia, Indonesia is barely on the radar of members of the Israeli academic community and the wider public. *Introducing Indonesia: History, Politics, and Culture* was conceived by Professor



Ronit Ricci of the departments of Asian Studies and Comparative Religion as a kick-off event for Indonesian Studies in Israel, and at the Hebrew University in particular, and as a first step in raising awareness of this important country. An additional goal of the conference was to build alternative bridges to those of diplomacy: ties of collegiality, friendship, exchange of ideas and collaborative research between scholars from Israel, Indonesia, and elsewhere.

Leading scholars from Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, the U.S. and Israel presented cutting edge research in the fields of anthropology, cultural studies, gender studies, religion, history, politics and media studies, all with a focus on Indonesia. Lectures covered a range of topics including religious pluralism in Indonesia, trauma and memory in modern Indonesian history, discourses of moderation and extremism in Indonesian Islam, Indonesian foreign policy, digital media, women and Islam, ambivalent attitudes toward Arabness in Indonesia, hip-hop and political activism, and more. The schedule allowed each speaker to begin with a broad introduction, followed by examples of in-depth research, with ample time left for questions and discussion.

In addition to lectures the conference offered a glimpse of Indonesia's vibrant arts: a Javanese dance workshop for conference participants, an Indonesian film that follows the lives of three street musicians in Jakarta, and a gamelan musical performance accompanied by song and dance.

In line with the goal of making Indonesia more accessible beyond academe, the conference was free and open to the public. Approximately 120 participants took part in the conference over two days, many of them affiliated with the Hebrew University. Undergraduate students taking the courses "Introduction to Indonesia: History and Culture," "Islam in Southeast Asia," and "Beginning Indonesian," attended the conference and later wrote an assignment based on their observations.

A significant aspect of the conference was the inclusion of Indonesian scholars, whose entry to Israel was uncertain until the last minute due to the difficulty of attaining visas. Once here they enjoyed interacting with Israeli researchers and students, seeing the campus, and touring the Old City, as well as gaining first hand exposure to the complexities of Israeli life.

Additional developments in the field of Indonesian Studies forthcoming in 2018-2019 include the re-instated undergraduate gamelan course in

which students will learn how to play gamelan instruments and produce beautiful Javanese music, an introductory course in Old Javanese to be taught during the fall semester, and a year-long international research group that will convene at the Israel Institute for Advanced Study, led by Ronit Ricci and focusing on "New Directions in the Study of Javanese Literature."

For questions on any of the above, please contact Ronit Ricci at [ronit.ricci@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:ronit.ricci@mail.huji.ac.il)



# A workshop entitled “The Societal Consequences of Climatic Changes – The Medieval Climate Anomaly”

was held on December 3-7, 2017 at the Mandel-Scholion Interdisciplinary Research Center in the Humanities of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

by Prof. Gidi Shelach, Dept. of Asian Studies

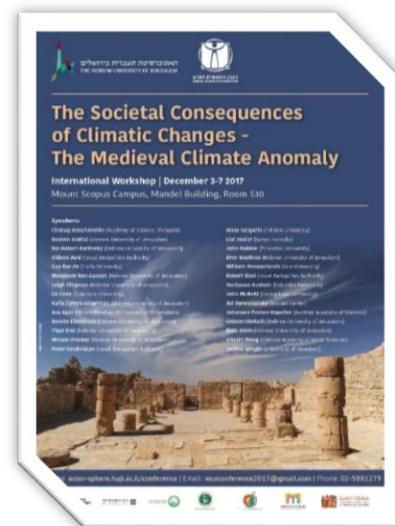
The workshop was organized by Prof. Ronnie Ellenblum (Dept. of Geography), Prof. Gidi Shelach (Dept. of Asian Studies), Prof. Gideon Avni (Dept. of Archaeology and the Israeli Antiquities Authority) and Dr. Leigh Chipman.

The workshop hosted eleven participants from North America, Europe, China and Mongolia as well as some fifteen Israeli scholars. During the workshop we discussed different aspects of the climatic, social and political history of the turbulent period of the Medieval Climate Anomaly (c. 950-1250 C.E.). The workshop was a

truly interdisciplinary event as it brought together scholars who study the climate history of the relevant period and experts on the history and archaeology of this period. It was also global in nature, not only because it featured world-renowned scholars but also because it addressed the history of the entire Old World – from Europe and West Asia to Central and East Asia.

As part of the workshop the participants were taken to a study tour in Caesarea and discussed the significant of discoveries there with archaeologists in

charge of the excavations. We also visited Ramat Hanadiv Natural Park and discussed the environmental work done there with local researchers.



## Korea Festival, May 21 to May 24

by Dr. Jooyeon Rhee, Head of Korean Studies Program at the Dept. of Asian Studies

The Korean Studies Program collaborated with Kumdanje and Kookmin University in Korea on two theatrical performances, one academic workshop, and three film screenings. The festival aimed to promote Korean culture in Israel, and it kicked off with an academic workshop on the Korean diaspora where scholars from Korea, the U.S., and Israel gathered to discuss how storytelling of diasporic experiences can enrich our understanding of the Korean as well as the Jewish diaspora. The festival showcased Kumdanje's performance, "Light," a *hanbok* (traditional Korean costume) fashion show that combined traditional dance and music. It featured students from our university who had a great experience modeling for and working with professional dancers and models from Korea. It drew almost 650 viewers from Israel. Jessie's Diary, a musical that was specially produced by BoreNabi



Theatre Group at Kookmin University, portrayed a moving story of Korean diaspora during the colonial period. It was performed with the attendance of more than 200 viewers. Three films on Korean history were screened during the festival in order to enhance the audience's understanding of Korean culture and history. This festival was the first Korea Foundation-supported event, and its scale and well-considered content made it a great venue to promote Korean culture in Israel.





The conference, “East Asia’s Security Challenges,” organized by Prof. Nissim Otmazgin and Dr. Galia Press-Barnathan, took place on January 21-22, 2018, at the Harry Truman Research Institute, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Eighteen participants from Israel and abroad discussed the challenges to East Asia’s security environment, both traditional security threats, as well as new threats such as terrorism and cybersecurity.

Conceptually, the conference sought to offer a complex and nuanced assessment of regional security challenges in East Asia. One such theme was the need to examine regional security across several levels of analysis, which are shaped and influenced by domestic factors in key states (Japan, China, Korea, members of ASEAN, the U.S.) by specific regional inter-state dynamics that build on historical and current rivalries (e.g. the China-Japan rivalry, South-North

## East Asia's Security Challenges

by Prof. Nissim Otmazgin, Dept. of Asian Studies

Korean relations) and by the interaction of the region as a whole and its individual members with extra-regional actors such as the United States, international organizations, and other regions like the Middle East.

The conference brought together experts who deal with individual states (Japan, China or Korea), with specific issue areas (e.g. nuclear proliferation or cybersecurity), and with broader security questions regarding international relations (IR). While this was an academic conference made up of academic experts, it became clear that how one studies regional security may vary depending on where one does her/his research and the academic clusters she/he works within. The interaction among scholars from different states served as a very useful reminder of this, and generated fascinating interaction.

The fact that this conference took place in Jerusalem offered an added value on several fronts. For one, it offered a perspective from outside the region that Asian experts are less familiar with (e.g. the discussion on cybersecurity in

East Asia and in Israel). Some of the issues that were discussed in the conference indeed suggest that future comparisons of security challenges and strategies between East Asia and the Middle East may be useful to generate new thinking about security. The emerging picture from the papers was a mixture of risks and challenges where new forces (terrorism, externalization of rivalry outside of East Asia, cybersecurity) are potential threats to East Asia’s regional security, but at the same time, “old arrangements” (Japan’s reliance on regional security multilateralism and the stability of the US-Japan security alliance) keep it stable. Concurrently, destabilizing sources of concern continue to exist, both in the long term (China’s gradual reshaping of the world order) and immediately (North Korea’s nuclear threat).

The conference was generously supported by the Japanese Embassy in Israel.

For the complete report and abstracts:

[SEE HERE.](#)

*The Frieberg Center is delighted and proud to Congratulate its fellow*

**Prof. Reuven Amitai,**

*on his receiving an honorary PhD from the School of International Relations, The National University of Mongolia, for promoting Mongolian Studies worldwide.*

*Khündetqel!!*



# Japan Day

by Mr. Elias Sixtel, a Student at the Departments of Asian Studies

Japan Day is an annual celebration of Japanese culture, initiated by the students of the Department of Asian Studies. This year's celebration took place on May 8, 2018. It was organized as a modern matsuri (festival) featuring lectures about Japanese history and culture, festival games such as goldfish scooping

(kingyo-sukui), Workshops (calligraphy, manga drawing, and sushi rolling), performances and demonstrations (material arts and tea ceremony). Stalls selling food, beers, and sweets, and information corners for traveling and studying in Japan added to the festivity.

Like every year, Japan Day was opened to visitors from outside of campus, many of whom were high school students interested in studying about Japan. Pictures from the event are on Facebook:

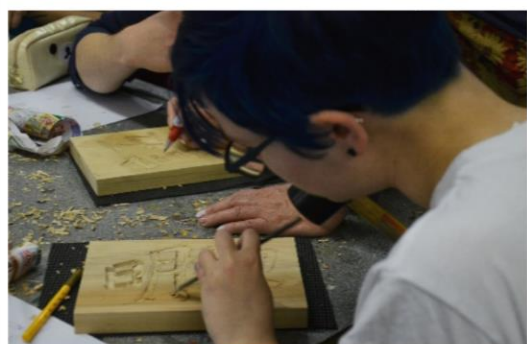
[https://www.facebook.com/esixtel/media\\_set?set=a.2000128680029626](https://www.facebook.com/esixtel/media_set?set=a.2000128680029626)



## Kokuji Shodo Workshop in Jerusalem marks its 10th anniversary!

by Ms. Anna Kireyev, BA student, Dept. of Asian Studies

For the past ten years, Usuda Taigen Sensei, one of Japan's most renowned calligraphers, has been coming to the Hebrew University accompanied by five of his aides to lead a four-day calligraphy workshop. This year, no less than 45 students participated in this intensive workshop. On the first day, each of the participants chose one kanji and practiced writing it. After passing Usuda Sensei's watchful eye, the kanji is copied and later carved on a special woodblock, brought from Japan,



woodblock, brought from Japan, using particular tools. Finally, the woodblock is painted and decorated. At the closing ceremony, each participant presented his/her own artwork and told the story behind his/her choice. The Kokuji Shodō workshop is a unique opportunity for our students not only to study about the cultures of East Asia but also to directly practice



# Arirang, February 5 2018

by Dr. Jooyeon Rhee, Head of Korean Studies Program at the Dept. of Asian Studies

The Dept. of Asian Studies hosted a performance of Korean dance and music sponsored by a non-profit institute, the Open Society for Intercultural Exchange (CEO, Dr. Kwon Byung-Keel), at the Mexico Hall on February 5, 2018. Referring to a beloved folk song in Korea, *Arirang*, the title embodies the history and cultural spirit of the Korean people. Almost 50 professional performers from South Korea came to our university, where they presented some of the most representative traditional

Korean cultural forms and also showcased contemporary versions of them, combining various kinds of dance and music. More than 500



viewers from both inside and outside the university attended the performance, which became a great venue to experience Korean culture.

*Arirang* was received warmly and with high enthusiasm. With many thanks to the OSIE, *Arirang* left a great impression about Korea in

Israel. Following up, the OSIE offered scholarships to students in Korean studies program, encouraging the students to further develop their interests in learning about Korea. I would also like to thank the

students in Korean studies program whose volunteering helped to make the performance a great success.

## Asia Day 2018 at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

by Doron Elbaz, BA student, Dept. of Asian Studies



The event took place at the beginning of June, under the theme “Each of us is unique” – it was a festival of culture, cuisine, lectures and people who celebrated, in a colorful and wonderful way, all that is Asian studies.

This event was organized solely by the students of the different sections of the department – students of China, Japan, India, Indonesia and Korea – and was led by the Student Association of the Hebrew University.



The main goal of the event was to put on display a taste of what it's like to be an academic studying Asia studies. This event had the largest number of participants the university has seen in the last year, with a rough estimate of between 800-1100 visitors .

The day began with an interactive workshop on Tai Chi and yoga from one of the teachers, Ms. Qian Lin. Following was a Chinese dance workshop and then a fascinating lecture by Yosevin, one of the Asian Studies Ph.D. students who came all the way from Indonesia, who talked about current culture and life there.

The Korean section gave one of the more impressive K-pop performances the University has ever seen, while the Japanese stand gave people the opportunity to try out kakigōri, a Japanese shaved ice dessert flavored with syrup and a sweetener. The Chinese stand provided an intense (and tense) competition in eating with chopsticks, as well as teaching the ancient game of Go.

The main events were the performances. During breaks from classes, students saw the Hebrew University's official Gamelan music group and one of Israel's leading

Indian performers showing us the wonders of Indian dance.

It was deliberately decided not to hand out any sort of pamphlets or paper in order to preserve and take care of the environment. Instead, a greener option arose in the form of branded fortune cookies that were given away throughout the campus to people, so that they would come to Asia Day.

Visitors enjoyed a series of lectures showing the different aspects of economy, culture, politics and life in Asia.

Mr. Ran Peleg, a diplomat and head of the China desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reviewed trends and relations between Israel and China in today's climate.

The most popular lecture was given by Mr. Nadav Eyal, chief international correspondent for Channel 10 News, who gave an exciting lecture on the geopolitical changes that peoples of the Asian continent went through in the past decades and the economic effects of globalization on demographics and political movements in Asia.

The event concluded with a closing lecture from the University's very own Dr. Danny Orbach.

See you next year!







Road to Asia, a unique employment fair, brought the biggest Israeli companies and professional businessmen that work in Asia to the students. The fair, that took place last June at the Hebrew University, was a unique event that allowed the students to get acquainted with the Asian companies, receive tips from experienced professionals and gave them practical knowledge, curiosity, and motivation for their future career in the Asian market. For the companies, it was an excellent opportunity to recruit top-quality personnel with high language skills, regional-cultural understanding, practical experience and the desire to integrate and lead.

It all began when five students from the Business Administration and East Asian Studies program decided they wanted to have more practical information about the Israeli-Asian market and take their degree to the next level. The program includes business and economic knowledge with language studies according to the chosen section (China, Japan, Korea, India and Indonesia) in a variety of forms, such as history and culture studies and more.

## Road to Asia: 2018 Employment Fair

by Yotam Govrin, BA student, Dept. of Asian Studies



Thus, with the help of Dr. Orna Naftali, Prof. Nisim Otmazgin, Dr. Ira Lyan, Ms. Ada Elkin, the Confucius Institute and the Frieberg Center, and after contacting many companies from different and various fields, some of them are now part of the program. Among the companies that took part in the event were Kela, Israel-Asia Chamber of Commerce, El-Al, Mobileye, The Mossad, Ahava. The event was a major success, and students from throughout the Asian Studies department came to the employment

fair to learn and acquire new tools for their profession. Furthermore, the employment fair offered the students unique job opportunities, as well as student exchange programs for those considering studying abroad or continuing to postgraduate degrees and internships, mainly related to their operations in Asia. Finally, the fair helped the students and alumni to develop personal networks, providing a sense of direction, a taste of the Asian world and of course fun.



# Hebrew University Confucius Institute Key Accomplishments 2017-2018

by Dr. Lihi Yariv-Laor, Director of the Confucius Institute

The academic year 2017-2018 has been a year of full-scale activities marked by new initiatives in addition to extension of previous ones for the Research-Oriented Confucius Institute at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In November 2017 we

Advancement of Peace, attracted a wide range of audience members, from researchers and students to government officials and business people. Less than a month later (December 18-20, 2017), the international conference "Migrations

(May 21-22, 2018) preceded the 14th biennial Conference of Asian Studies (ASI18) in Israel (May 23-24, 2018), which was actually the culmination of this year's conferential activities. With more than 14 panels dedicated to specific China topics and many others that included China as part of the Asian sphere, and with scholars from all over the world discussing diverse subjects ranging from Chinese historiography to food in China, our CI's support of the conference aimed at further enhancing China knowledge.

## **Lectures on China-related topics**

included David Elstein's "Contemporary Confucian Views of Democracy" (January 10, 2018); Rebecca Robinson's "Predicting Rain in Han China" (April 11, 2018); Mao Haiming's "A Tibetan Prime Minister in the Yuan Dynasty: A Case of Ethnic Integration in Medieval China" (April 25, 2018); Sharon Small's "New Insights from Old Chinese Texts" (May 9, 2018); and Christine Wong's "Bold strategy or irrational exuberance: Can China's fiscal

were happy to welcome Prof. Wang Shizhou of Peking University, who joined our team (Tal Nizan - the administrative manager of CI and myself) as the new co-director appointed by Han Ban. Below are some of our major accomplishments:

## **Conferences, symposia and workshops**

related to China research that were supported or initiated by the Confucius Institute were held throughout the entire academic year. This year's activities opened with a round-table symposium on the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (November 28, 2017). The event, that took place at the Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the

in Mongol Eurasia: People, Ideas, Artifacts" followed, with a key-note speech by Kim Hodong of Seoul National University: "Empire on the Move: A Study of the Mongol Imperial Court." On December 27, 2017, we held the annual Confucius Institute Day. Under the theme "Glimpses of Contemporary China," short presentations on diverse topics from Chinese law through environment issues, international organizations in China and Chinese contemporary art fascinated an audience of overseas and Israeli students alike. The international workshop "Compendia for Governing the World: Mirrors for Princes between East and West"





foundations support the Belt and Road Initiative?" (June 10, 2018).

**Cultural Activities** are part and parcel of our Confucius Institute's activities alongside with its research-oriented ones. The Chinese New Year was cheerfully celebrated at the Einstein Bar in the Students' Village and attracted not only Chinese and Israeli students from the Hebrew University but also Chinese students from other places in Israel (February 15, 2018).

In commemoration of the Holocaust Memorial Day, our CI held a screening of "Shanghai Ghetto," a documentary demonstrating the days during World War II when faraway Shanghai constituted the only place on Earth where Jews could find refuge (April 10, 2018). In March we held the annual Egbar Ceremony in memoriam of Rotem Egbar, a former student of the China section in the department of East Asian Studies, who was killed during his army service 19 years ago. The Egbar Scholarships were awarded to outstanding students. The Dragon Boat Festival on the Yarkon River in Tel Aviv was a jolly event in which a delegation of our CI took part (May 25, 2018). This year's cultural activities ended with a workshop on Chinese medicine: "Diagnosis by the tongue" (June 10, 2018). The participants of this workshop concluded: "Show me your tongue and I'll tell you who you are."

**Activities to promote acquaintance with China, its**

**culture and its people among school children** were conducted this year in full scale.

HUJI CI supported "Chinese Cultural Experiences" in five high schools in Jerusalem and its vicinity. Students of the department of Asian Studies lectured on Chinese culture and Chinese society and organized cultural activities such as Chinese calligraphy, making Chinese kites and lanterns. This kind of activity was warmly welcomed not only by the pupils themselves but also by the school authorities.



### **Chinese Language Enhancement**

**HSK** – Chinese language level examinations were conducted this year for the first time with cooperation with the new language unit established at the Hebrew University. About 70 students passed the exams successfully in HSK levels ranging from 2 to 5 and in HSKK beginners and intermediate levels.

**Scholarships** – In addition to these very fruitful research and cultural activities, the Confucius Institute, with the

active involvement of Han Ban headquarters, managed to allot different sorts of Study-in-China scholarships. Besides one-year scholarships to graduates and advanced students of the Department of Asian Studies, this year, as in previous years, we conducted an Intensive Chinese Language Summer Course in China: outstanding second-year students of the Hebrew University were awarded Han Ban scholarships for a 4-week Chinese language summer course at Jilin University (August 2018).

With the dynamic partnership of Peking University and with the constant support of Han Ban, the activities described above and others, whether purely research activities or cultural-educational ones, whether intended for academia or for the general public in Israel, whether aimed at school children or at adults, are all part and parcel of the ongoing efforts of the Confucius Institute at the Hebrew University to encourage the knowledge of China in Israel and to promote mutual understanding between Chinese and Israeli communities.



Field  
Research

## The "Chinggis Wall" in Mongolia: Archaeological Expedition

by Prof. Gidi Shelach, Dept. of Asian Studies



In July 2018 an expedition from the Hebrew University, headed by Prof. Gideon Shelach, conducted field research in the northeastern part of Mongolia. The research was a joint project of the Hebrew University, the Mongolian Academy of Science, and Yale University. It was partly funded by the endowment of the Louis Frieberg Chair of East Asian Studies and by the Mandel-Scholion Research Center. From the Hebrew University our team included, in addition to Prof. Shelach, six graduate students. The aim of the project was to study the so-called "Chinggis Wall," an enigmatic array of a long wall that extends some 800km long in one of the most isolated places of the world, and other structures like fortresses and camps located along its line. The wall is believed to have been Constructed during the Medieval period (11th-13th centuries C.E.), but

when exactly it was built, who built it and why it was built is unknown. Our aim in this preliminary season was to assess the layout of the wall and associated structures, and to collect evidence for the time of its construction.

Our project focused on the north eastern most part of Mongolia, near its borders with China and Russia. This is a classic steppe area with a very sparse nomadic population. We built our camp near the wall remains and systematically surveyed its line, as well as some of the forts and camps that are associated with it. During the survey we collected ceramic shards and other artifacts

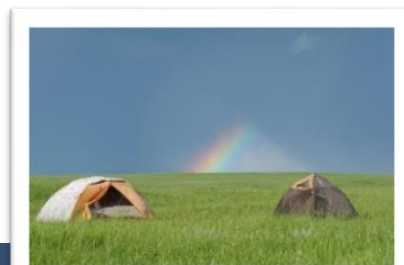
that will help us date the wall. In addition, we brought with us a drone and used it to take aerial photos that reveal and document the full complexity of the wall system. We also used metal-detectors to try and

find coins and other artifacts that will help us precisely date the time of construction and use of the wall.

All members of our team greatly enjoyed the experience of working and living in one of the most remote areas of Mongolia. During our stay there, we had the opportunity to observe the culture and life of the pastoral nomadic population of this area, the animals they raise and the wildlife in this wonderful region. We hope to be able to return to Mongolia next year and conduct excavations at parts of the "Chinggis Wall."

For more information see:

<https://sites.google.com/view/mongoliawall/home>



## Fellowships for 2019-2020

### The Louis Frieberg Post-doctoral Fellowship

The Louis Frieberg Center for East Asian Studies offers post-doctoral fellowships for the 2019-2020 academic year. The post-docs are open to scholars in the humanities and social sciences specializing in East Asia, especially China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia. For more details click [here](#).

**Deadline: March 4, 2019**



# Upcoming Events

## Views and People in Japan: Photo Exhibition

On October 14, 2019, at the opening of the academic year, the Frieberg Center in collaboration with the Hebrew University's Library for the Social Sciences and the Humanities and the Embassy of Japan in Israel will host a two-week special photo exhibition on "views and people in Japan." The selected pictures were taken by Israeli amateur photographers, including our present and former students, focusing on Japan's multifaceted and vibrant urban culture, relaxing countryside, and beautiful nature.



October 2018

November 2018

## A Taiwanese Soft Power? Taiwan's Contemporary Society and Culture: International Conference

On November 28–29, 2018, the Frieberg Center in collaboration with the Truman Institute and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Tel Aviv will, for the first time in Israel, host an international conference that focuses solely on Taiwan. Titled "A Taiwanese Soft Power? Taiwan's Contemporary Society and Culture," the papers at this conference will address some of the dramatic changes occurring in Taiwanese society in recent years – the existence of a large consumer middle-class, changing attitudes toward immigration and gender relations, the celebration of indigenous and local culture, the investment in tourism and academic exchange, and the emergence of a bustling urban and youth culture.

## Rethinking Early Chinese Historiography: International Workshop

Event date: 12.5–16.5.2019

Organizers: Yuri Pines (Hebrew U.) and Martin Kern (Princeton U.)

The Chinese empire was renowned for high cultural prestige and exceptional productivity of history writing. In distinction, only a very few historical texts survived from the millennium preceding China's imperial unification in 221 BCE. Yet recent paleographic discoveries and a more nuanced understanding of transmitted texts allow us to reassess the formative age of China's historiographic tradition. Our symposium gathers specialists in history, philosophy, literature, paleography, and archeology, for a joint exploration of a broad variety of historical and quasi-historical texts now available. Our goal is to understand the role of history-writing in the intellectual and political life of pre-imperial China. Who produced historical texts, and for what audiences and purposes? What were the sources that historians utilized, and how did they get access to them? What inspired trust in the historian, and where did his authority come from? How did historical texts circulate? How are they related to contemporaneous ideological cleavages? What was their role in the formation of regional and trans-regional identities? How did history-writing evolve during these centuries and how is it related (or not) to subsequent imperial-age historiography? What are the differences and similarities between early Chinese historiographic traditions and those in other ancient civilizations? By engaging these questions, we hope to raise our understanding of early Chinese historiography to a new level.

May 2019

# The Frieberg Center has been involved in many other events:

## November 2017

1 – Lecture by Dr. Ophira Gamliel, “Arabic and Islam on the Move: Cross- Cultural Encounters Between Southwest and South Asia (organized under the auspices of the JewEast ERC project at the Ruhr University) ”

15 – Lecture by Dr. Naama Eisenstein, “Visualizing History: The Image of the Gempei War (1180-1185) in Tokugawa Japan”

28- Symposium: The 19<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Chinese Communist Party: A real turning point?

29-30- International Conference: Indonesia: History, Politics and Culture

## January 2018

10- Lecture by David Elstein, “Contemporary Confucian Views of Democracy”

17- Lecture by Dr. Yagil Henkin, “The Battle of Burma”

21-22- International Conference: East Asia's Security Challenges

25- Lecture by Prof. Vera Schwarcz, “Re-thinking Jewish Agency in Shanghai During the Shoah: The Chaya Walkin Story”

## April 2016

10- Film Screening, “Shanghai Ghetto”

11 – Lecture by Dr. Rebecca Robinson, “Predicting Rain in Han China”

25- Lecture by Haiming Mao, “Tibetan Prime Minister in the Integration in Medieval China”

## June 2017

4- Asia day

6 – Lecture by Yagi Morris, “Deciphering a Medieval Japanese Buddhist Text: The 'Kinpusen Himitsuden' and the Rules of its Games”

11 – Lecture by Pier Giorgio Borbone, “Christian Tomb Inscriptions as a Source for the History of Mongol Central Asia”

20- Lecture by Shalmit Bejerano, “Reexamining a Heian-period scroll: the various interpretations of the 'Scroll of Illnesses'”

## December 2017

3-4- Workshop: Populism and Political Media in East Asia

3-7- International Conference: The Societal Consequences of Climatic Changes- The Medieval Climate Anomaly

6 – Lecture by Muhamad Ali, “The Struggle of the Shi'as as in Muslim Majority Indonesia”

11 – Lecture by Barak Kushner, “War Propaganda and Postwar Justice: Japan's Struggle for Legitimacy after Surrender”

18-20- International Conference: Migrations in Mongol Eurasia: People, Ideas, Artifacts

20- Lecture by Sharon Bar David, “Dictators, Pirate and Peace Keeping Forces- A Dialogue on Chinese Neo-Colonialism in Africa”

27-Confucius Institute Day, “Glimpses of Contemporary China”

## February 2017

5- “Arirang”, Performance of Korean dance and music

## March 2017

19-22- Kokuji Shodo Workshop

## May 2017

9- Lecture by Sharon Small, “New Insights from Old Chinese Texts”

16 – Lecture by Jusmeet Singh Sihra, “The Urban Dalits: Space and Social Mobility in an Indian City”

21-22- International Workshop: Compendia for Governing the World: Mirrors for Princes between East and West

21- International Workshop: Stories and Storytelling of Korean Diaspora

22– International Workshop: Science, Gender and Morality in Korean Culture

22- Exhibition Opening: Photographs of the Hakka people of Southern Taiwan

23-24- The 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Asia (ASI18)