THE RISE OF ASIA
IN GLOBAL HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVE
LA MONTEE DE L’ASIE
EN HISTOIRE ET PERSPECTIVE GLOBALES

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
AND THE RISE OF ASIA

150 YEARS OF GANDHI:
will it bring peace, justice and non-violence to the world?

In collaboration with
Master’s Degree in Exchanges with Asia
Université Le Havre Normandie

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MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA AND THE RISE OF ASIA

INTERNATIONAL AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE
Paris, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, March 13, 2019
Le Havre, Université Le Havre Normandie, March 14-15, 2019

www.bandungspirit.org/ 
conference-masterasie@univ-lehavre.fr

CO-ORGANISING AND HOSTING INSTITUTIONS

CHAC
Centre d’Histoire de l’Asie Contemporaine
Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
Paris, France

GRIC
Groupe de recherche identités et cultures
Université Le Havre Normandie
Le Havre, France

IN COLLABORATION WITH

NIEAAS
Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies of Africa, Asia and South-South Relations
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

CALL FOR PAPERS

The conference is open to individual and group paper presentations. Those willing to present their papers are invited to submit their proposals following the GUIDELINES FOR PRESENTER CANDIDATES described below. The conference call for papers lasts from November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019. The selected proposals will be communicated to their authors between December 2018 and February 2019.
INTRODUCTION

In the Middle East, in the region once known as Mesopotamia, there arose about five thousand years ago the first cities of which there is formal register. This, together with the evidence of commercial exchanges offers us with the certainty of very ancient links that joined this region to the rest of the Asian continent. Throughout history the Middle East has had a decisive role in the long distance commercial routes that have linked together the most extreme Eastern region of the Asian continent to Europe and Africa.

The Middle East is a part of Asia that shares a common legacy of civilisation with the peoples of the whole continent. During the historical golden age of the Islamic Civilisation, Baghdad, Damascus, Shiraz, were key centres of dissemination of knowledge and culture throughout Asia and well beyond.

Referring to more recent events, in the 20th century, the struggle against colonialism united peoples from various parts of Asia and the Middle East. One very special moment that showed the convergence of these leaders and movements was the 1955 Bandung Conference, held in Indonesia. That was a landmark meeting that initiated a series of political victories that led to the independence of more than 30 countries in few years and encouraged the former colonised peoples to make their voices heard by the rest of the world.

In the latter part of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st, the Middle East and the North of Africa — regions with a common historical and cultural background — were the stage of very dramatic, bloody conflicts and foreign interventions that have created one of the most challenging humanitarian catastrophes of history with millions of refugees and hundreds of thousands of lives lost. This has led the Middle East and North Africa — the MENA region, as it is called — to a huge challenge: to rebuild the infrastructure and the political institutions, to assure the refugees the right to return to a safe nation, to face and solve the social disintegration issue, to believe once more in a hopeful future and to eradicate the causes of terror. To accomplish all these objectives the countries and societies involved will need global support and solidarity, in particular of the Asian countries and peoples themselves.

There are some ongoing Asian initiatives, such as the Chinese “One-Belt, One Road project” (referred to in the media as the New Silk Road project), which contemplates huge infrastructure programs and billionaire investments, involving ports, railways, highways, communications etc., beneficially involving Middle East countries. But this alone will not be enough without addressing the major political challenges. In this field, the Bandung spirit could be an important guideline to the discussions that will certainly be taking place in the coming future.

This session welcomes contributions that could help to analyse and overview the past and present relations between Asia and the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa), in a very broad dimension: political, historical, economical, social, diplomatic, judicial and cultural, provoking and encouraging participation in the debate. (Beatriz Bissio, Department of Political Science, Post-Graduate Program in Comparative History, NIEAAS Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies of Africa, Asia and South-South Relations, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

GUIDELINES FOR PRESENTER CANDIDATES

The selection of presenters is based on the abstract and the basic personal data of the presenter candidates in respect to the following dates:
1. Deadline for abstract submission: January 31, 2019
2. Announce of the selected presenters: December 2018 - February 2019
3. Deadline for full paper submission: February 28, 2019

The abstract is limited to approximately 300 words (figures, tables, and references should not be included in the abstract) accompanied by basic personal data of the author(s) including:
- Full name and surname
- Gender (male/female/other)
- University title (if any)
- Specialism (if any)
- Professional category (lecturer/researcher or activist/practitioner or both)
- Institution/organisation/company
- Function in institution/organisation/company
- Full address (physical/postal address, phone and fax numbers, email)

The basic personal data are to be presented below the abstract (in the same file of the abstract, not in a separate file)

The full paper is to be presented according to the following basic rule:
- Paper size: A4 (kwarto)
- Margins: 2.5 cm from all the borders (top, bottom, left, right)
- Interline: double space
- Typography: Times New Roman, 12 points
- Article size: around 4000 words
- Language: English, British style, article to be checked by a competent person in language editing before submission

The abstract with basic personal data and the full paper are to be sent by e-mail to the following e-mail address: conference-masterasie@univ-lehavre.fr

**FINANCING**

The presenters as well as simple participants of the conference are supposed to find the necessary fund for their own participation (visa, international and national transport, accommodation).

**PRACTICAL MATTERS**

The organising committee will provide practical information related to local hotels and transport in Paris and Le Havre. The participants will be accompanied by students of the Université Le Havre Normandie in Master’s Degree in Exchanges with Asia (with their language proficiencies in Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean and Russian, in addition to English and French) and Master’s Degree in Exchanges with Latin America (with their language proficiencies in Portuguese and Spanish, in addition to English and French).