

Approaches and Perspectives for the Caucasus and Central Asia

Date: Monday, 11 March 2024

Venue: Rees Davies Room, Faculty of History, George Street, Oxford, OX1 2BE

Conveners:

Benjamin Sharkey (medieval Central Asia)

Roman Osharov (imperial and early Soviet Central Asia and the Caucasus)

Jan Tomek (contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus)

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| 9:00-9:30 | Arrival and welcome | |
| 9:30-10:30 | Panel 1 | |
| Chair/discussant | Dr Michael Shenkar | |
| | Alexandra Slucky, University of York | Culinary Communities of the Silk Roads: an isotopic and archaeobotanical approach to exploring dietary patterns in Medieval Urban Central Asia |
| | Benjamin Sharkey, University of Oxford | Writing Central Asian history from the perspective of minority faith communities: Central Asian Christians |
| 10:30-10:45 | Coffee break | |
| 10:45-11:45 | Panel 2 | |
| Chair/discussant | Dr Mollie Arbuthnot | |
| | Malika Zehni, IHR and University of Cambridge | Imperial gaze and infectious narratives: recording medical crises in Russian Central Asia |
| | Roman Osharov, University of Oxford | The Caucasus and Central Asia under Russian rule – transfer of people and knowledge on Russia's imperial borderlands, 1870-1890 |
| 11:45-13:00 | Lunch | |

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| 13:00-14:00 | Panel 3 | |
| Chair/discussant | Dr Tamar Koplastadze | |
| | Jonas Löffler, University of Cologne | Between Colonial Rule and Local Self-Empowerment. Western Art Music in Tiflis/Tbilisi around 1900 |
| | Ali Porteous, University of Oxford | 'Ridiculing fellow countrymen and heaping praise upon Europeans': The Uses and Abuses of Satire in the Azerbaijani Press (1906-1914) |
| 14:00-14:15 | Coffee break | |
| 14:15-15:15 | Panel 4 | |
| Chair/discussant | Dr Alexander Morrison | |
| | Matthias Battis, University of Oxford | Stalinabad 1930: The convergence of scholarship and politics at the Tajik language congress |
| | Kamila Akhmedjanova, University of Oxford | Central Asian intellectual trends in the 19th century - case study of Ahmad Donish |
| 15:15-15:30 | Coffee break | |
| 15:30-17:15 | Panel 5 | |
| Chair/discussant | Prof Edmund Herzig | |
| | Sofya du Boulay (Omarova), affiliate to the USTA Mentorship Program | Constructing foundational myths in Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan |
| | Abigail Scripka, ZZP Potsdam | Negotiating Traditional Identity in Kazakhstan Post-Independence through Tengrism |
| | Megi Kartivadze, University of Oxford | Nation-building and the Legacy of Stalinism in post-Soviet Georgia |
| | Jan Tomek, University of Oxford | The conceptual standing of Iran and Turkey in the nation-building of the republics of the Caspian-Central Asia region |
| 17:15-17:30 | Coffee break | |
| 17:30-18:30 | Concluding roundtable | |
| Dinner (optional) | | |