

“Document”

Critical Nationalism Studies Workshop: National Imaginaries and Beyond

School of Government and International Affairs

Durham University

14th-15th September 2017

Introduction

The world system of nation-state sovereignty divides up the globe politically, just as ethnic categorization divides states internally into majorities and minorities. At the same time, migrants and minorities tend to be the ‘Essential Outsiders’ against which sovereign nation-states define their society and citizenry. That definition is encapsulated in the concept of nationality, which in its strict sense means membership of a nation, but has become synonymous with citizenship. It is in the categorizing and policing of minorities and migrants that the nation-state realizes its sovereign power as the representative of an exclusive political community.

The workshop sets out to disrupt the widely accepted use of nationality and citizenship as synonyms. In so doing, it explores the basis for the sovereignty and legitimacy of the nation-state and looks at possible reconfigurations of the state-society construct, using East and Southeast Asian material and spiritual practices as guiding metaphors. To do so, the workshop utilizes several theoretical-methodological perspectives: distinguishing cultural nationality from legal citizenship; refocusing on the sea and away from territorial sovereignty; taking the spiritual dichotomy between ghosts and ancestors as a guiding metaphor to explore ‘Self’ and ‘Other’ and to gain new theoretical insights on contemporary East and Southeast Asian sovereignty. Empirically, the workshop’s cross-continental scope enables rich comparative work across Europe, Southeast Asia, the South China Sea and East Asia.

Conference Programme (Tentative)

14th September

8.30am: Pick up from hotel and walk along the river to School of Government and International Affairs (SGIA)

9am: Coffee on arrival at SGIA

9.20am: Welcome from SGIA's Head of School, Professor John Williams (TBC)

9.30-11am: PANEL 1

Prof Isomae Junichi: Colonialism and the Nation-State: Shadows of Japanese Modern History
[2nd Panellist TBC]

11- 11.30am: Coffee

11.30am-1pm: PANEL 2

Prof Katsuo Nawa "Religion", Patrilineality, and imagined communities in contemporary Nepal:
comparing the early Panchayat and post-"Conflict" Periods
[2nd Panellist TBC]

1-2pm: Lunch

2-3.30pm: DISCUSSION PANEL

Artists' Perspectives on Home and Belonging

Dr Anthony Key and Korean Artist

Claire Sutherland chairing

3.30pm: Coffee and Opening of James Sebald's Photographic Exhibition on the Cham
Walk up to Oriental Museum (OM)

4.30-5.30pm: OM workshop (TBC)

5.30- 7pm: OM Gallery tour and wine reception (TBC)

Walk to Business School

7pm: Dinner at Durham Business School

Walk or taxis back to hotel

15th September

From 9am: Coffee in SGIA

9.30-11am: PANEL 4

Prof Yijiang Zhong: Wet Nation: Imagining the Sea of Japan in 1930s Japan
[2nd Panellist TBC]

11-11.30am: Coffee

11.30-1pm: PANEL 5

Kenn: 'language, migration, and nationalism in Denmark'

[2nd Panellist TBC]

1-2pm: Lunch

2-3.30pm: Panel 6 [TBC]

3.30pm: Coffee, wrap-up and next steps

4pm: WORKSHOP ENDS

6.30pm: Pick up from hotel and walk through town centre to El Coto, Spanish tapas restaurant.

7pm: Dinner

Walk back to hotel