

ESTA Newsletter III
[22-11-2019]

Dear all,

This is the third newsletter for the Indian Ocean and maritime Asian slave trade database initiative. Below follows a short update on our progress as well as news about an upcoming expert workshop in Bonn.

Bonn Workshop

On the 11th and 12th May 2020 an expert workshop, *Forced Relocations: Conceptualizations, Cases and Data*, will be hosted by the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies. The aim of the workshop is to explore the conceptualization of forced relocations comparatively, as well as to discuss the possibilities of designing data structures that allow for the mapping and documenting of forced relocation beyond the Atlantic. For those interested, please find the call for papers attached to this email.

Abstracts (roughly 200 words) can be sent to assistance@dependency.uni-bonn.de until 31 December 2019.

European Social Science History Conference 2020

We are looking forward to the European Social Science History Conference in March 2020, where we have organized a panel session. We are pleased to announce the following participants will be delivering their papers in Leiden:

- Preethi Ayyalusamy: *Banning export of women and children in the Bombay Zillah*
- Jessica Hanser: *Servants and Slaves Sailing on British Ships to and from China*
- Vinil Paul: *Once A Slave Always A Slave: A History of Local Networks of Slave Sales in Kerala, c1700-1820*
- Timothy Walker: *Popular and Official Resistance to Ending Trans-Indian Ocean Slavery in the Portuguese Estado de Índia: Resistance to Crown-Mandated Slave Registration and Military Service, 1842-1860*

Database

We are pleased to report that we are entering a period of testing potential database models. Having researched the challenges and possibilities of various database models, we are moving forward with testing two different database structures for the Western Indian Ocean pilot in the coming months. The aim will be to present and discuss the results at the May 2020 workshop in Bonn with a view to moving forward to a wider Indian Ocean and maritime Asian slave trade database.

Data

We are continuing to collect existing datasets with the intention of storing, curating, and incorporating them into an Indian Ocean and maritime Asian slave trade database. Recent additions include the addition of Gerrit Knaap's data [CHECK WITH BRAM] as well as a transcription of names of VOC slaves in the *slavenhuis* at the Cape in July 1685.

In October two IISH-team members (Merve Tosun and Matthias van Rossum) collected a first set of data of slave trade transaction in 18th century Batavia during their research trip in the Arsip Nasional Republik Indonesia (Jakarta).

As well as these additions of new data, we are also busy compiling an inventory of references to previously published collections and overviews of data, including databases already available online.

The collected datasets are deposited in a durable way, and- depending on the agreements with the contributors- made available openly or stored under conditions of use. The collected data can be found on <https://datasets.socialhistory.org/dataverse/iomastd>

We would also like to repeat our call to scout for research data or datasets of colleagues who are no longer active, as these are important to recover and preserve. The IISH offers to secure and curate the data or collections.

New contributions and collaborations are always welcome. These can be broader, of course, than existing datasets, but could also be shared lists of observations, references, collections of sources, or suggestions for archives.

That's it for now, we will keep you updated on future developments and meetings!

Warm regards,

Samantha Sint Nicolaas,

On behalf of the ESTA-team.

For questions or suggestions with regard to the project, data or sources, please don't hesitate to contact us. Alternatively, if you have news you'd like to share with the network, please don't hesitate to get in touch! Contact: Samantha Sint Nicolaas (Samantha.sintnicolaas@iisg.nl) or Matthias van Rossum (mvr@iisg.nl).