



**Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia**

**in collaboration with**

**Centre for Indian Studies in Africa, University of Witwatersrand**

**organises**

**A Three-Day International Conference (Online)**

**[ Ministry of Education, Government of India-SPARC Supported]**

**On**

**Cosmopolitan Cultures and Oceanic Thought: Thinking through  
History Across the Waters**

**23-25 November 2020**

**New Delhi**



12th century Map of the Indian Ocean, Muhammad al-Idrisi (1099-1166)

**Registration Link:** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17o6v\\_K-JxR6FFYNo-8jywo5Z55wkU4yLx8VcY8ekNmE/edit?usp=drivesdk](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17o6v_K-JxR6FFYNo-8jywo5Z55wkU4yLx8VcY8ekNmE/edit?usp=drivesdk)

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Day One

MONDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2020

10.30-11.00 AM : Inaugural Session

#### SESSION 1: 11 AM-1.15 PM

1. Isabel Hofmeyr, Global Distinguished Professor, NYU, Professor of African Literature, University of the Witwatersrand, "Hydrocoloniality" (7.30 AM SA- 9.45 AM SA)
2. Lakshmi Subramaniam, Professor of History, BITS Pilani Goa and Membre Associe IEA, Nantes, "Towards a Cosmopolitan History of the Indian Ocean: Revisiting Historiography"
3. Fahad Bishara, University of Virginia, "Re-inscribing the Bazaar: Reflections on Circulation and Capitalism in the Indian Ocean World" (12.30 AM- 2.45 AM EST)

#### SESSION 2: 3PM-5PM IST (9.30 to 11.30 GMT)

1. Elleke Boehmer, Professor of World Literature in English, University of Oxford, "Fellowship and Aversion in the South: The Challenges of South-South Collaboration"
2. Ananya Jahanara Kabir, Professor of English, King's College, London, "Creole Indias and their Archipelagic Connections?"

### Day Two

TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2020

#### SESSION 1: 11AM-1 PM

##### 1. Padmavati of the Oceans: Syed Alaol's Migrant Epic

Swati Moitra, Gurudas College, University of Calcutta

##### 2. 'Ulamā' Networks across the Seas: Understanding the Trajectory of Islam in Medieval Malabar

Mohammed Shameem K. K., Jawaharlal Nehru University

**3. A Theologian as Public Intellectual: 'Abd al-Haqq Muhaddis Dehlawi in Sixteenth Century India**

Sushmita Banerjee, Miranda House, University of Delhi

**4. Mapping Syncretic Grammar of Coastal Cities & Architecture through Ibn Battuta's Water Journeys in the Indian Ocean (1342-1347)**

Iqtedar Alam, Jamia Millia Islamia

**SESSION 2: 3.30PM-5PM**

**1. Tracing Cosmopolitan Geographies of Christian 'Margam' in Malabar: A Study of Select Southist Christian Folk Traditions**

Ann Susan Aleyas, Jamia Millia Islamia

**2. Crossing the Oceans: Kalapani Proscription versus Hindu Sea Voyage Movement in Bengal in the 19th and the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries**

Sukanya Sarkar Sasmal, SN College for Women, Kolkata and Indranil Chattopadhyay, BKC College, Kolkata

**3. "As Long as the sun and moon lasts": Exploring the Indian Influence on Dutch Treaties in South East Asia**

Meenu Rabecca Mathai, Sree Sankaracharya University

**Session 3: 6.30 PM -7.30 PM (9.30 AM EST-10.30 AM EST)**

- 1. Geeta Patel, University of Virginia, "Found in Prison: The Poetics of Oceanic Histories"**
- 2. Kelsey McFaul, University of California, Santa Cruz "The wind sketches landscapes of words": Oceanic poetics in the Horn of Africa and western Indian Ocean"**

**Day Three**

**WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2020**

**SESSION 1: 10AM-11.30AM**

- 1. Beyond 'Orient' and 'Occident': Ubiquitous Influence of Buddhist Political Thought**  
Swasti Sharma, University of Delhi
- 2. Ocean Imaginaries in Meena Alexander's Literary Works**

Shuby Abidi, Jamia Millia Islamia

**3. Amitav Ghosh's Ibis Trilogy: A Literary Mapping of the Indian Ocean**

Nidhi, Ambedkar University Delhi

**SESSION 2: 11.30PM-1PM**

**1. The Tales of Parrot and the Sea of Desire: Tracing Similarities in Sanskrit and Arabic Literature on Women's Sexuality from the Medieval Era**

Samana Madhuri, Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya, Vidyasagar University

**2. Rainbow Waters: Towards a Queer Coalition between India and Botswana**

Kashish Dua, Jamia Millia Islamia.

**3. Middle Passage to Middle Non-Passage: Christianity, Conversion and Caste: Reflections of Christian Malayalam Writings in Post-Colonial India**

Steven S. George, Jamia Millia Islamia

**SESSION 3: 3.30 PM-5PM**

**1. Heritage ecologies in Indian Ocean archipelagos**

Pedro Pombo, Goa University

**2. Lyrics as Travelogue beyond Boundaries: An Anthology of Punjab's Mystical Wanderings**

Sanjay Dansalia, Jamia Millia Islamia

**3. Senses Translated: The Sīra- Maghāzī Literatures, Padapāttus, and Texts and Sounds across the Indian Ocean Arabic Cosmopolis**

Ihsan Ul Ihtisam, Jawaharlal Nehru University

**Plenary : 6.30 PM-7.30 PM IST (9.30 AM to 10.30 AM EST)**

**1. Nidhi Mahajan, University of California, Santa Cruz, "Moorings: The Dhow Trade and Mobility in the Western Indian Ocean."**

**2. Jatin Dua, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, "Chokeypoints: Temporalities of navigation in the Western Indian Ocean"**

**VOTE OF THANKS**

**CONFERENCE CHAIRS: Professor Nishat Zaidi (JMI), Professor Dilip Menon (CISA)**

**CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS: Professor Simi Malhotra (JMI), Dr Saarah Jappie**