Mapping the end of empire: coming to terms with the Pacific War - Shanghai as a hub of displacement and resettlement.

10 September 2024

(The Lewis Room, Westminster College, Madingley Road, Cambridge)



Cooperation between the University of Cambridge, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (AMES), and the ERC GLORE project ("Global Resettlement Regimes: Ambivalent Lessons learned from the Postwar (1945-1951)" at the University of Vienna.

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Cambridge DAAD Workshop

Convenors: Prof. Dr. Barak Kushner (Cambridge), Prof. Dr. Kerstin von Lingen (Vienna)

Abstract:

In the 1930ies, Nazi rule in Europe forced millions into Exile to escape the Holocaust. Shanghai became temporally a hot-spot of forced migration during the Second World War, especially for Berlin and Viennese Jewish refugees. A German community emerged in Hongkou Ghetto. However, Chinese nationals and other groups were displaced by the war, too, making Shanghai during the war an international refugee hub. This workshop explores how between 1938 and 1948 different groups of refugees competed for ressources and tried to resettle and restart their lives with the help of international agencies as the Red Cross or the UNRRA/ CNRRA.

Program:

9.30 h	Opening: Barak Kushner, Kerstin von Lingen
10.00 h	Jiayi TAO (post-doc): "Amidst multi-ethnic refugees: tensions, patriotic fervour, and urban life in post-war Shanghai" (comment: Robert Bickers, Bristol)
10.30 h	Elisabeth Czerniak (PhD): "Neither Here nor There – Shanghai as the Starting Point of a Renewed Odyssey: A Biographical Case Study" (comment: Xin FAN, Cambridge)
11.00 h	Lena Christoph (PhD): "Russian Anti-Communist Refugees in Shanghai: The Role of Personal Narratives in Recovering Stories of Prolonged Transit, 1917-1952" (comment: Peter Gatrell, Manchester)
11.30 h	Raphaela Bollwein (PhD): "Of mixed origin. Racist categories in the resettlement schemes for the St. Tikhon Orphans from Shanghai" (comment: Yujie ZHU, ANU Canberra/ Berlin)
12-14 h:	Lunch Break
14.00 h	Johannes Glack (PhD): 'More displaced than ever': Resettlement of elderly and impaired German-speaking Jewish Refugees from Shanghai, 1950-1951 (comment: Jessica Reinisch, London)
14.30 h	Franziska Lamp (PhD): The Migration Experiences and Resettlement Trajectories of Single Women among the "Shanghai Repatriates" (comment: Peter Gatrell, Manchester)
15 h	Konstantin Schischka (PhD on Social GIS methods): "From Desperation to Destination: Economic and Pragmatic Perspectives on Resettlement via Airplane in East Asia (1948-1951)." (comment: Kerstin von Lingen, Vienna)
15.30 h	Group Discussion: Shanghai as a transit hub for German and Austrian Holocaust victims and civil war refugees
18.30 h	Dinner