Globalized heritage in Asia: regional articulations, silences, contestations

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Organizers: Dr. Peter Bille Larsen (UNIGE, GEDT) and Pascale Bugnon (UNIGE, IC)

Heritage has today become a globalized category involving multiple forms, categories and national phenomena. If current global forms predominately have European origins, they have within the last few decades become appropriated on a massive scale, yet also rearticulated and reshaped by Asian countries (Winter and Daly, 2012). If Asia just a couple of decades was considered underrepresented on the global scene, heritage-making in Asia today, in some regards at least, outpacing other regions, yet also leading to new ways of thinking and practicing heritage.

This workshop explores the nature of heritage, its universalities and particularities in distinct Asian contexts. Are there specific Asian processes of heritage-making and how do they manifest themselves in different heritage arenas? What characterizes the forms, meanings and approaches in terms of similarities and differences across heritage in both tangible and intangible forms? How are these articulated and what are the specific forms of silences, negotiations and contestations this leads to? We aim to explore particular national processes and heritage practices with a particular focus on how heritage is considered, forgotten, contested or silenced at local, regional and national levels.

Organized jointly by the Confucius Institute and the Environmental Governance and Territorial Development Institute (GEDT), both of the University of Geneva, the workshop “Globalized heritage in Asia: regional articulations, silences, contestations” aims to provide a space to share insights, case studies and good practices amongst both Asian and European researchers. Based on ethnographically-informed research on a wide range of different heritage processes and practices, this workshop will foster productive dialogue and aim to offer a new analytical perspective on heritage dynamics in Asia.
Program

9:00 – 9:30 Introduction
9:00 – 9:15 Basile Zimmermann (UNIGE) Welcome speech

9:15 – 9:30 Peter Larsen (UNIGE) and Pascale Bugnon (UNIGE) Opening remarks

9:30 – 12:30 Presentations

9:30 – 10:00 Damien Kunik (MEG) The shifting motives of “heritage-making” processes in Japan

10:00 – 10:30 Raluca Mateoc (UNIFR) “Hidden Christian Sites in the Nagasaki Region”: Heritage Imaginations as Modes of Existence

10:30 – 11:00 Pascale Bugnon (UNIGE) “The Stones speak” but what do they say? Some reflections on Muslim heritage in Quanzhou, Fujian (China)

11:00 – 11:15 Tea break

11:15 – 11:45 Christophe Bouleau (Aga Khan Trust for Culture) Conserving the Lahore Fort Picture Wall, Pakistan

11:45 – 12:15 Florence Graezer Bideau (EPFL, CDH) Historic urban landscape as an opportunity for change? Evidence from Beijing

12:15 – 12h45 Isabelle Milbert (IHEID) Ambiguities and contradictions of heritage management in Indian large metropolises: the case of Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)

12:45 – 13:45 – Lunch break

13:45 – 16:30 Presentations

13:45 – 14:15 Feng Jing (UNESCO, WHC) Safeguarding World’s Cultural Heritage along the Silk Roads to promote sustainable development and sustainable tourism

14:15 – 14:45 Eugene Jo (ICCROM) Glorifying heritage of the distant past in its original form: the distorted development of the intangible heritage system in Korea

14:45 – 15:15 Pierrick Porcher (UNIGE) Between local transmission and national heritage: process of heritage making in Guangfu “taiji township”

15:15 – 15:45 Tea break

15:45 – 16:15 Peter Bille Larsen (UNIGE) World Heritage proliferation and hierarchies of value in Vietnam: the case of Phong Nha Ke Bang

16:15 – 16:45 Rouran Zhang (Nankai University) Benefits or Burdens? Stakeholders’ Perception of World Heritage Nomination and Management in Libo Karst World Nature Heritage Site, China

16:45 – 17.30 Synthesis, general discussion and follow-up ideas