

Global histories

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Editorial Letter/Acknowledgements

Ruby Guyot

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DEAR READER,

We are very pleased to present you with this short yet savvy issue, one which was colloquially referred to by our team as the ‘Islamic issue’. Indeed, by sheer coincidence, all of the pieces in this issue deal with the global Islamic community in one way or another. Beginning with Gabriel Soares’ look at Islamic communities in the Indian Sea and their encounters with the Portuguese in the sixteenth century, he examines literary sources throughout the Indian Ocean to draw attention to the narratives of those who experienced invasion. In Anna Breidenbach’s study of two different ambassadors to the French court in the early eighteenth century, she traces the development of diplomatic norms and the uneven power relationships between so-called ‘oriental’ ambassadors and the French officials who received them. Jonas Araujo continues with his look at the concept of ummah as a practice of identity formation and resilience for enslaved Muslims in Brazil, Jamaica, and the United States during the nineteenth century. George Loftus’ work on the Iranian Revolution in the minds of Yugoslavians rounds out the articles, connecting the threads of Non-Alignment to the tension between Yugoslav Muslim intellectual circles and the socialist state in its uneasy relationship as the ‘gate to Europe’. Finally, Rohan Chopra reviews a text on the forgotten history of Hindustan, pointing towards the need for global histories which do well to not just reiterate colonial constructions.

Team Global histories has been extremely busy over the past months, with the return of our Global History Student Conference. From 24 to 26 June, 2022, 35 participants travelled to Berlin from all over the world to present their research and connect with fellow students of global history. It was an incredibly lively weekend, raising new discussions about our field and building new connections which will hopefully be sustained for long to come! We were very glad to have hosted the conference in person once more, but now, with the conference having come to an end and the release of this journal issue, we look forward to a fruitful break in our intellectual endeavors. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy this latest issue.

With best regards,

Ruby Guyot

Editor-in-chief

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We would like to acknowledge the interest and work of all students who submitted an article, essay, or review during the last call for papers. We are especially grateful to the authors published in this issue, for both their fruitful contributions and efforts in revision. These authors include Anna Breidenbach, Gabriel Mathias Soares, Jonas Araujo, George Loftus, and Rohan Chopra. Although this issue may be short, their excellent pieces make for stimulating, enjoyable reads, and it was a pleasure to work with all of them. We are also grateful for their patience with our delays, as it was an extra special challenge putting together this issue while also hard at work planning the Global History Student Conference!

In addition, we would like to extend our immense gratitude to the students on the Global Histories journal team and students in our Global History MA program, particularly those who devoted extensive time and effort to reviewing and editing the published pieces. These members include Simone Steadman-Gantous, Janina Abts, Lennart Schmidt, Piotr Kardynal, Lukas Jung, Otsbal Quirós-González, Zaza Jung, Hanna Yateem, Sarah Gubitz, Charlotte Bracklo, Cecilia Burgos Cuevas, and Phoebe Ka Laam Ng. The attention and dedication these members provided towards the pieces they worked on during the arrival of another semester (and for some, alongside conference planning) ensured this issue's high quality. We would once again like to thank Cecilia Burgos Cuevas for her work in the layout and design of our journal, and for yet another visually appealing issue.

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