

## Programme

### *10.00-11.00 Plenary session*

#### **New imperial histories**

\*Introduction/Chair: Remco Raben (Utrecht University)

\*Keynote lecture Alan Lester (University of Sussex): 'The New Imperial History: A Debate'

\*Discussant: Karel Davids (VU University)

### *11.15-12.45 Parallel sessions*

#### **Parallel session 1A: Migration circuits**

Colonial empires did not merely consist of territorial possessions, but were also made of less tangible structures, such as human networks and migration circuits. These networks channelled people – and with them, ideas – between different parts of the Dutch empire. The permanent, if often uneven, flows of travellers and migrants were the arteries of empire and the principal agent of empire-driven globalization. The journey to other parts of the Dutch colonial world not only changed the lives, identities and worldviews of the travellers themselves, but also the societies where they arrived or to which they returned. In this panel, speakers focus on networks that have triggered or propped up the development of 'global Dutchness'.

Chair: Marlou Schrover (Leiden University)

Speakers:

\*Roelof van Gelder: '40,000 Letters over Sea: A Hidden Resource in The National Archives in London'

\*Henk den Heijer and Karwan Fatah Black (Leiden University): 'Eighteenth-century Surinamese-Dutch Migration Circuits'

\*Barbara Henkes (Groningen University): 'Shame and Scandal in the Family: Global Dutchness and Apartheid in South Africa'

#### **Parallel session 1B: Information and cultural networks**

Dutch imperial geography created patterns of information exchange between the different parts of the world. Many travellers within the Dutch imperial orbit were impressed by the countries and societies they encountered. This imperial information was expressed in a variety of ways, ranging from travelogues and newspaper reports to music, paintings and drama. In this way, Dutch public opinion was presented with different views of overseas matters, in different forms. Speakers at this session will present several case studies that highlight characteristics of imperial culture within a particular historical context. They will discuss both the content of various cultural representations and the international information networks that shaped these idioms.

\*Chair: Susan Legêne (VU University)

Speakers:

\*Marten Jan Bok (University of Amsterdam): 'Dutch Painters in Asia in the

Seventeenth Century'

\*Vincent Kuitenbrouwer (VU University): "'A Campaign of the Pen": Dutch Journalism and the South African War (1899-1902)'

\*Manjusha Kuruppath (Leiden University): 'Casting Asian Despots in Dutch Drama: The Case of Van Seenwyk's *Thamas Koelikan*'

### **12.45-13.45 Lunch**

### **13.45-14.45 Plenary session**

#### **Colonial and post-colonial moralities**

\*Keynote lecture: Romain Bertrand (CERI, Paris): 'The Politics of Colonialism and Post-colonialism'

\*Discussant: Elsbeth Locher-Scholten (Utrecht University)

\*Chair: Remco Raben (Utrecht University)

### **15.00-16.30 Parallel sessions**

#### **Parallel session 2A: Imperial values**

Colonies and imperial networks facilitated the transfer and exchange of values to and from the different parts of empire. Most distinctly, this happened through the export of Dutch values and institutions to the colonies, but there are good reasons to look beyond the claim of colonialism as an agent of 'modernization' and investigate the impact of empire on Dutch society. Colonialism has also changed the moral order in the Netherlands, through debates on the use of violence and on the hierarchy of races and cultures, through familiarizing the exotic, and through changing concepts of social and natural engineering.

\*Chair: James Kennedy (University of Amsterdam)

Speakers:

\*Dienke Hondius (VU University): 'Paternalism and other crucial concepts in the European history of *race*'

\*Maartje Janse (Leiden University): 'Distant Victims: The Paradox of Nineteenth-century Protests Against Slavery and the Cultivation System'

\*Alicia Schrikker (Leiden University): 'Dutch responses to natural disasters in nineteenth-century Indonesia: humanitarianism, governmentality and identity'

#### **Parallel session 2B: Imperial knowledge**

The gathering of knowledge is often a matter of networking, and this was no different in Dutch imperial geography. Agents of colonial knowledge-production profited from the administrative networks in the colonies, from the inter-imperial political and scientific networks and from the direct connections between colony and metropole. In a colonial situation, the exchange and dissemination of knowledge could be a means to disseminate moral values and to legitimize political relations. With a focus on the study of nature, antiquities, peoples and languages of the Dutch empire, this panel will investigate the local and international networks through which knowledge

was produced and circulated. Speakers will also explore the moral and political connotations and effects of this imperial scientific knowledge, for example in legitimizing colonialism and in generating colonial engagement in the metropole.

\*Chair: Gerrit Knaap (Institute of Netherlands History)

Speakers:

\*Marieke Bloembergen (KITLV)/Martijn Eickhoff (Netherlands Institute for War Documentation): 'A National Obligation: Archaeological Research and Regime Change in Java and the Netherlands (1800-1850)'

\*Fenneke Sysling (VU University): 'Different Ethics Overseas? Anthropological Exploration Practices at Home and Overseas'

\*Andreas Weber (Leiden University): 'Forging New Connections: Adriaan David Cornets de Groot Junior (1804-1829) and the Mapping of the Javanese Language in the Early Nineteenth Century'

### ***16.45-17.30 Plenary session***

#### **A New Dutch Imperial History? - Debate**

\*Report on the conference: Gert Oostindie (Leiden University)

\*Round-table discussion: James Kennedy, Gerrit Knaap, Susan Legêne, Gert Oostindie, Marlou Schrover and Henk te Velde

\*Chair: Remco Raben