The Power of the Past: Myth, Tradition and History

Friday April 1, 2016
Harris Hall 108 (Leopold Room) 1881 Sheridan Rd, Evanston

8:30-9:00 Coffee and Welcome
Welcome: CCHS Interim Director Deborah Cohen
Convener’s Introduction: Nathaniel Mathews, CCHS Graduate Fellow

9:00-10:45 Panel One: Memory and Polity-Making

Nathan KWAN (Hong Kong U) “Mediating between Empires: The Role of the Kowloon Xunjian in Sino-British Relations, 1843-1856.”

Aurelio INSISA (Hong Kong U) “The Mythopoesis of an Empire: Tang China’s Imperial Legacy and Song Dynasty’s Soft Power in East Asia (10-11th C.).”

David SAUNDERS (Hong Kong U) “National Identity and Local Myth: The Sulu Sultanate, the Philippines and the Manufacturing of Anti-Colonial Tradition, 1946-1963.”

Commentator: Jean ALLMAN (Washington University)
Chair: Yanqiu ZHENG (Northwestern)

10:45-11:00 Coffee

11:00-12:45pm Panel Two: Remembering, Forgetting and Violence
Aram SARKISIAN (Northwestern) “Searching for St. Ilya: Historical Memory and the Making (and Forgetting) of Orthodox Saints in North America.”

Valeria NAVARRO-ROSENBLATT (UW-Madison) “Silence and Contested Memory: Remembrance of the Jewish Victims of State Repression”

Nathaniel MATHEWS (Northwestern) “Nationalism as Redemption from Violent Memories: Postcolonial Migration and the Memory-Scape of Zanzibar in Modern Oman.”

Commentator: Benjamin FROMMER (Northwestern)
Chair: Joy SALES (Northwestern)

12:45-1:30 LUNCH

1:30-3:00 Keynote
Professor Yael ZERUBAVEL (Rutgers University) “History, Myth, and Counter-Narratives in the Construction of Mnemonic Traditions”

3:00-4:45 Panel Three: Memory, Community and Social Reproduction

Christopher MUHOOZI (Northwestern) “Which Past is History? Memory and Ethnic Nationalism in Ankole, 1901-1967.”

Sarah YU (Hong Kong U) “How ‘Modernization’ Became ‘Reconstruction’: Chinese Study Abroad, 1937-1945.”

Commentator: Jean ALLMAN (Washington University)
Chair: Samuel KLING (Northwestern)

4:45-5:30 Reception