

ASIA-EUROPE

The intricate and entangled historical relations between Asia and Europe remain to be mapped out. “Asia” and “Europe” did not exist until the modern era; and there has been no unity to the two continents. The historical encounters were established via imperialism and colonialism. The nationalist independence movements and socialist revolutions on a global scale has generated ruptures in the so-called postcolonial era, within which the Cold War structure somehow has played a key role to maintain the continuity: decolonisation in both ex/imperial centre and ex/colonies were blocked. The 1955 Bandung Conference was the historical landmark event to break away from the binarism of “socialism” and “capitalism”. The weakening of the Cold War opened the gateway for the arrival of (the neo-liberal) “globalisation”. With the rise of the Rest (Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Latin-America) the conditions of possibilities are now in place to re-open the history of conquest. Only by doing so, solidarity across all sectors can be re-built. To push the “Bandungist” project forward, we will need not only to re-enter histories, but to critically challenge and transform the existing modes of knowledge and thought shaped by the Europeans for the past two centuries; and will need to “return” to the earthy temples, mosques, churches, markets, festivals, etc, to return to the Mingjung (popular) life-world embodied in the multiple (peasant) worldviews and cosmologies. We invite contributions to initiate long term collaborative comparative projects, such as the Cold War and Bandung effects in the local, regional and global contexts; partition, division system, and reintegration movement; nationalist decolonisation movements in the ex/colonies as well as deimperialisation struggles in the ex/imperial centres; post/socialism; rising agenda such as “New Marine Times” (Indonesia), “One Belt, One Road” (China), “Asia-Africa Corridor” (India), etc, and the possibilities to connect in the spirits of Bandung.

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