

## **ABSTRACTS**

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### **Bandung Conference and its Constellation The fundamental books**

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Like a big bang, the Bandung Conference generated stars, planets, comets, meteors... forming a constellation of conferences, cultural festivals, social and solidarity movements, associations/organisations/institutions, business fora, research institutes, study centres, academic periodicals, news magazines... based on, inspired or provoked by the Bandung Conference. The contours and the content of the Bandung Constellation have not yet been known completely. They consist of at least four manifestations: Conferences, Organisations, Studies and Publications. The core of the Bandung Constellation is the Bandung Conference. Its history, its preparation, its organisation, its proceedings, its list of participants and their speeches, its final communiqué, its impacts, its follow-ups, its constellation,... have been recorded in three categories of documents: 1) Published documents on the Bandung Conference itself (the Bandung Conference as an autonomous subject); 2) Published documents that treat the Bandung Conference as a part of another subject (the Bandung Conference as an element of a subject); 3) Unpublished documents on the Bandung Conference and its constellation (the Bandung Conference in diverse national archives). This presentation concerns mainly the first category of documents, essentially the printed books published in divers languages and countries following the conference until the present day. The references of the books are presented chronologically, followed by comments and quotations of selected books considered to be the most important for the fact that they bring new information compared to their predecessors.

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### **After the Fact Bandung as History, Bandung as Epistemology**

**Christopher Lee**  
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This paper seeks to outline two key dimensions of the Bandung conference: its history and its mythology. On the one hand, it is essential to understand the circumstances of the Bandung meeting, specifically the crisis in Southeast Asia then occurring, particularly with regard to Vietnam, and how regional countries sought to address such matters. On the other hand, it is important to understand the mythology that has arisen surrounding the conference: who was there, the nature of solidarity, and the lasting effects of the meeting. This paper seeks to untangle these two interactive dimensions, with the purpose of outlining a stronger historical sense to think about the Bandung conference and its legacies. The Bandung meeting ultimately contributes to a new epistemology for thinking about Asian-African relations, but it must do so in a factual sense, not on the basis of political romanticism.

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## **The arab world from bandung to the"arab spring**

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*Abstract to be received*

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## **Thirdworldism as internationalism A hidden ideological dimension of the cold war**

**Lin Chun**  
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The dominant ideological conflict of the Cold War was perceived as between communism and capitalism or “totalitarianism” and liberalism. Bandung challenged that view and brought attention to an emerging alternative known as "Third-Worldism", which was based on the solidarity of non-aligned nations. Despite their distinct ideologies, such nations were to a significant extent dependent on support from socialist countries. This was a consequence of their class-like situations in an exploitative and oppressive global system, and their anti-colonial, anti-imperialist stances. China, by opposing both super powers, thus found itself in a unique position to play a leading role in the third world, while paradoxically also undermining essential support for the non-aligned movement (especially from the Soviet Union). The Sino-Soviet split deeply hurt the movement and led to its eventual collapse. This paper argues for the importance of ideology and ideological mutation in global politics at the time, which took on a variety of forms, from struggles for theoretical and political legitimacy to competitions for power and border wars. It examines the compatibility and intrinsic linkages between internationalism (class-based) and Third-worldism (nation-based) in development, as decline of one was necessarily indicative of failure of the other. As the Bandung spirit endures in the post-cold war global South, its commitment to people’s sovereignty must be recast in terms of a moral and eco-political economy as well as an international order based on equality and justice.

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## **The Bandung Conference and the Discourse of Post-colonial Economic Development**

**Kweku Ampiah**  
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Taking my cue from the first principle of the Final Communique of the Asian-African Conference of 1955, I wish to explore the problematic of economic development as it was conceived by the participating countries at the Bandung Conference. More specifically, with reference to the communique’s emphasis on the need to promote economic development in the Asian African countries through cooperation and on the basis of mutual interest and respect for national sovereignty, I wish to discuss Japan’s role in the economic development of East Asia. I will then examine Japan’s recent initiatives in support of Africa’s development,

which invariably brings into perspective China's role in the discourse of international development.

The discussion will be in the context of the discourse of international development and the dominance of the field by the hegemonic forces of development, in particular the World Bank and its supporting agencies. The analysis would therefore reflect on the impact of these forces on the post-colonial economies of Asia and Africa. I will also discuss the forces of development as led by the East Asian countries, Japan and China in particular, that have posed alternative development ideas, interrogating the dominance of the neo-liberal agenda for development.

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**Bandung 2015,  
Richard Wright's "The Colour Curtain" Revisited**

**Françoise Vergès  
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In 1955, the Africa-American writer Richard Wright, while living in self-imposed exile in France, spent three weeks in Indonesia and attended the Bandung Conference as a freelance journalist between 18 and 24 April. His impressions on the conference were published in his 1956 book, *The Color Curtain: A Report on the Bandung Conference*. At the end of April 2015, the Indonesian weekly news magazine *Tempo* published a special bound edition of Richard Wright's book in both Indonesian and English to mark the Bandung Conference's 60th anniversary. It was put together by a team of over 90 writers, editors and contributors.

In this contribution however, I suggest a reading of *The Colour Curtain* along with Frantz Fanon's writings (*Black Skin, White Masks* and *The Wretched of the Earth*, particularly the chapter on "The National Bourgeoisie")

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**The dream of African unity before and after Bandung**

**Lazare Ki-zerbo  
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Should Pan-Africanism be relegated to a mythology and storytelling? It persists in the rhetoric of the African Union, in its legal doctrine, in speeches and representations of civil and political society of Africa and the Diaspora. So more than ever it is lively as a social phenomenon, as a dream for millions of African youth, artists, intellectuals....

The question is not to understand this presence as the effect of a collective error or hysteria. Rather, it is to take seriously that stubborn obstinacy of an historical temporality, broken, hampered looking for and at the same time inventing the modalities of their union.

The work of Richard Wright seems interesting to understand a possible Bandung-effect on this movement because it intertwines, both in fiction and non-fiction, the themes of dream, awaking, African independence and the Bandung Conference as the paradigm of decolonization. It raises the issue of how to collect and disseminate the popular memory of African political societies today.

Among other cases the initiative of the International South Group Network might be studied as a legacy of Bandung.

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**Between Berlin and Bandung  
Continuities and Discontinuities in the Making of Modern Africa**

**Oka Obono  
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*Abstract to be received*

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**The Impact of Bandung in an Interpolar Context  
Any Chance for an Institutionalized Form of Afro-Asian Linkages**

**István Tarrósy  
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The presentation intends to point at the importance of the unique discourse that goes back 60 years to the conference of Bandung, and the non-aligned, the framework of a 'third way' of politics and solidarity during the bipolar world, but also with potentially lasting impact and implications for the interpolar globalism of the twenty-first century. It will critically look into the chances of a new intercontinental setting – maybe the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership (NAASP) – while acknowledge strongly developing processes, which overarch and interconnect co-operations of different kind in the form of summit diplomacy (such as TICAD, FOCAC, IAFS) driven by and organized on the basis of competing national interests of major Asian actors. How much the 'Spirit of Bandung' can contribute to the rise of Asian entities in Africa, and how much African agency can get strengthened via the special Afro-Asian relationship (its newly defined system and continuous rhetoric) will be visited from a number of angles.