UNIVERSITÉ LE HAVRE NORMANDIE

GRIC
Groupe de recherche identités et cultures

THE RISE OF ASIA 100 YEARS AFTER LAI:
Is the Imperialism Dying and a New World Order Emerging?

International and Interdisciplinary Conference
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https://bandungspirit.org/

Call for abstracts for a panel

DISCURSIVE VIOLENCE AND IMPERIALISM: A Continuing Challenge

It imposed a knowledge system that delegitimised, and even aimed to obliterate, languages, cultures, and people's knowledge. It presented paradigms of progress as a part of its so-called "civilizing mission". It defined key concepts that became central to the curriculum. The entire education system and new cultural apparatus were built as a part of this process.

Many countries pointed out this as part of the destructive rule of imperialism during the freedom struggle. In the postcolonial period, there were conscious efforts to examine some of these. But the Cold War created its own derivative discourses.

During the era of neoliberalism and the rise of high-tech, such critical efforts receded to the background. Most states wished to learn from the West and catch up.

We are now deeply immersed in the categories and frameworks – some of them in new avatars that imperialism had proposed. This is happening even though the postcolonial era had declared the perspective of equality of nations, cultures, languages and religions in the UN Charter.

But in today's world, amid the many crises people have experienced, numerous social movements and active groups are working on the ground across postcolonial societies, exposing this form of violence.

Discursive violence presents narratives, explanations, and terms of discourse as universally true and unquestionable. On the other hand, the liberation agenda entails critical examination and dialogue among equals on all aspects of life, society and change.

This panel invites contributions from different parts of the world documenting forms of discursive violence in various sectors and what is being done to challenge them and advance the liberation agenda in the discursive realm. The panel is open to individual and group paper presentations. Those willing to present their papers are invited to submit their abstracts until December 31, 2026. Abstracts of approximately 200-300 words (excluding figures, tables, and references) and basic personal data of the authors are to be submitted online at: https://forms.gle/2F3dS1QrDNQTugUs8

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