



The SLAFNET Network

Europe : French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development, French National Center for Scientific Research and University of Nantes (France), Bath Spa University and University of Birmingham (UK), University of Lisbon (Portugal), University of Hamburg (Germany).

Africa : Catholic University of Eastern Africa and National Museums of Kenya (Kenya), University of Mauritius (Mauritius), University of Yaounde I (Cameroon), Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia), Cheikh Anta Diop University (Senegal).

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Organisers:



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The project

Setting up an international research network dedicated to the legacy of slavery in Africa and Europe: such is the purpose of the SLAFNET research project coordinated by the IRD. Funded by the European Commission, it brings together a multidisciplinary team of some 50 researchers in a consortium of 13 partners from the North and South.

For three years, SLAFNET will promote synergy between European and African teams on the social dynamics resulting from the abolition of slavery until the present.

The project will mobilise over 50 researchers in France, Kenya, Mauritius, Cameroun, Ethiopia, Senegal, Germany, Portugal and the UK to:

- Understand post-slavery issues relating to citizenship, marginalisation and injustice in Africa and European societies;
- Analyse the dialectics between commemorating and obliterating slavery;
- Initiate consideration of the process of integrating this in the heritage on both an individual and a national scale;
- Create an inventory of databases of existing resources on slavery in the Atlantic and Western Indian Oceans.

SLAFNET's 13 partners will undertake research in three areas: training, research and valorisation, to promote and support cooperation among researchers and institutions on both, reinforcing support for young African and European researchers and developing new synergies with the academic world and non-academics.



Bath Spa University

Period: 19-22 February 2018 - Methodological Training Program for the SLAFNET Network

Archival Workshop: "Sources and Research methods in History of Africa"

Monday 19

Introductory remarks

Short discussions about archival experiences and best practice

Bath Spa Library tour - Talk about having access to online material

Tuesday 20 - Visit to Bristol

Meeting archivist and talk about colonial sources (Bristol Museums and Arts Galleries)

Stop at the Georgian House – short visit // Bristol and slavery

Library in College Green and source material

Museum MShed (exhibition on slave trade and slavery)

Coach to Bristol Record Office and access to primary sources if needed by majority of researchers after consultation of online catalogue.

Wednesday 21 – Visit to London

Morning: Session at the National Archives about accessing material and about the material (Laura Tompkins)

Afternoon: British Library session with archivists about material (to be confirmed).

Thursday 22- Visit to Oxford

Session at the Bodleian Libraries – "Commonwealth and African Collections"

Session at the Ashmolean and colonial collection.

Short tour of Oxford – Colonial legacies and funds in the city

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University of Birmingham, School of History and Cultures, Department of African Studies and Anthropology (DASA)

Period: 3-24 March 2018 – Advanced Training Course for the SLAFNET Network

Slavery and Emancipation in 20th Century Africa

In most of Africa slavery was only abolished at the beginning of the 20th century. Enduring legacies of slavery continue to affect social hierarchies and labor relations, and sexual slavery has been widespread in recent African wars. This course examines the history of slavery and emancipation in different African regions. It focuses on the experience of enslaved men and women. It is convened by Benedetta Rossi and consists of eight 2-hour seminars, each consisting of lecture and class-discussion on readings circulated in advance:

Monday 5 March: General introduction: periodisations, concepts, definitions

Wednesday 7 March: Early abolitions of the 19th Century

Thursday 8 March: Colonial ambivalence and struggles for emancipation, 1900-1926

Friday 9 March: Exit, voice, and loyalty: the options of (ex-)slaves, 1926-1946

Monday 12 March: End of forced labour, birth of development, and apartheid, 1946-1960

Wednesday 14 March: The rise of African abolitionism, 1960-1990

Friday 16 March: Sexual slavery and forced marriage in contemporary African wars

Wednesday 21 March: Conclusion

Other organised activities: two research methods training sessions, two public lectures, and a workshop accompany and complement the Advanced Training Course:

Tuesday 6 March: Introduction to Africa-focused library resources and databases accessible at the University of Birmingham (by Specialist Librarian); Introduction to the Cadbury Research Library and Church Missionary Society archive (by Archive Curator)

Wednesdays 7 and 14 March: public lectures by invited Africanists

Monday 19-Tuesday 20: Workshop 'Researching Slavery in Africa' with presentations by SLAFNET researchers and other Africa focused researchers and feedback by invited specialists (Rachel Jean-Baptiste, Alice Bellagamba, Felicitas Becker, Lotte Pelckmans).

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