Welcome to Bonn, welcome to the Cluster of Excellence "Beyond Slavery and Freedom"

Since January 2019, the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS) has recruited a large number of international researchers who began their work in the winter semester 2019/2020. More will follow in the coming years. We would like to briefly introduce the new staff members of the Cluster.

Our Research Group Leaders are:

Dr. Mariana Armond Dias Paes, Goethe University Frankfurt
Researcher and Coordinator of Research Group *Law and the Creation of Dependency in the Ibero-Atlantic*

Dr. Claude Chevaleyre, University of Lyon
Researcher and Coordinator of Research Group *Beyond Slavery: Dependency in Asian History*

Dr. Christian G. De Vito
Researcher and Coordinator of Research Group *Punishment, Labour, Dependency*

Dr. Lisa Hellman
Researcher and Coordinator of Research Group *Coerced Labour in the Global Circulation of Knowledge* (starting in January)

Dr. Christian Mader
Researcher and Coordinator of Research Group *The Archaeology of Dependency: Resources, Power, and Status Differentiation*
Dr. Hanne Østhus
Researcher and Coordinator of Research Group *Dependency, Gender and Labour in the Household*

Dr. Julia Winnebeck
Researcher and Coordinator of Research Groups *Structures of Dependency in the Late Antique* and *Early Medieval Western Church*

Our PhD students are:

Malik Ade, African Studies
Anas Ansar, Migration and Intercultural Relations
Dita Auzina, Archaeology
Adam Fagbore, Egyptology
Katja Girr, Sociology
Zeynep Gökçe, Islamic Studies
Magnus Goffin, Legal History
Paul Graf, Anthropology of the Americas
Honey Hammer, Egyptology
Clara Hedtrich, German Medieval Studies
Ayesha Hussein, Anthropology
Danitza Marquez, Anthropology of the Americas
Stanislav Mohylnyi, Comparative History
Nabhojeet Sen, History
Jahfar Shareef Pokkanali, Asian and Islamic Art History
Laurie Venters, Ancient History
Patrick Zeidler, Classical Archaeology

Our Heinz Heinen Fellows within the BCDSS fellowship program are:

Stefan Brink, Scandinavian History
Caroline Laske, Comparative Law
Lotte Pelckmans, Anthropology/African Studies

Detailed researcher profiles will soon be available on our websites.
Beyond Slavery and Freedom: Opening up new Fields

We are very pleased to announce that on November 6–8, 2019, our Cluster of Excellence will hold its opening conference at the Heinz Heinen Kolleg to kick off our work on „Beyond Slavery and Freedom“.

On 6 November, we will start the three-day event with a keynote by Trevor Burnard (University of Melbourne), on A Pack of Knaves: The Demise of the Royal African Company, the Triumph of the Big Planter Class and the Nadir of Enslaved Experience in British America, 1672–1708 followed by a panel discussion on Work 2019 – Dependency or Freedom? and a reception.

On 7 November, we will approach the different research areas of the cluster in six high profile lectures by internationally renowned researchers.

Please refer to the programme for further information or check our website. Please sign up here.

Slaves, Serfs and Free Labour in Medieval Northern Europe

Interdisciplinary Conference, 25–26 October 2019

The Abteilung für Skandinavistik at the University of Bonn and the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies will hold an interdisciplinary conference on Slaves, Serfs and Free Labour in Medieval Northern Europe with participants from a number of universities worldwide.

The conference seeks to investigate forms of free and unfree labour in medieval Northern and North-western Europe. While previous research on Medieval Scandinavian dependencies has mainly concentrated on the economical impact of Viking Age slave-making, we intend to concentrate on the different types of labour and the social strata recognisable in the Medieval sources to arrive at a fuller picture of the Scandinavian labour situation in pre-modern times.

Please refer to the programme for further information or check our website. Contact: Hanne Østhus, hosthus@uni-bonn.de or Rudolf Simek, simek@uni-bonn.de
Joseph C. Miller Memorial Lecture Series
starts on 28 October

Starting in winter semester 2019/2020, the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies will hold its Joseph C. Miller Memorial Lecture Series every two weeks on Mondays. Renowned international researchers will present their research and deal with questions of asymmetric dependency and slavery.

The first lecture will take place on 28 October at 4 p.m. at the Heinz Heinen Kolleg, Heussallee 18–24, 53113 Bonn.

Richard Allen from Framingham State University, Massachusetts, will give a lecture on Slaves, Convicts, Indentured Laborers and the Tyranny of the Particular.

Further lectures by:

25 November 2019
Charles Ramble (University of Oxford):
Of Human Bondage in the Nepal Himalaya: Tibetan Case Histories from the 17th to the 20th Centuries

9 December 2019
Roberto Hofmeister Pich (Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Porto Alegre):
The Ideology of Black Slavery: Some Philosophical, Juridical, and Theological Accounts by 17th Century Iberian and Latin American Thinkers on Enslavement and Slave Trade

16 December 2019
Paolo Tedesco (Universität Tübingen):
The Rise and Fall of North Africa’s Peasantry: Landholding Elites, Economy, and Labour Dependency (250–650 CE)

13 January 2020
Gudrun Bühnemann (University of Wisconsin-Madison):
Crushed Underfoot: Patterns of Subjugation and Extreme Dependency in the Buddhist Iconography of Nepal

27 January 2020
Pierangelo Buongiorno (Università del Salento):
The 'Dictionary' of Dependencies in the Roman Empire: Some Remarks

Please refer to the programme for further dates or check our website.
Dependency Workshop Series: Comparisons

26 November 2019

At the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies, scholars explore a number of different regions, areas and countries from almost all time periods in human history. The task of this fourth workshop in the Dependency Workshop Series is to explore how we can compare "dependencies" over time and across space.

The workshop will look at this from two perspectives: first, the methodological question of how we choose unit(s) of comparisons, and second, how we can compare i) in the same time period, but particularly ii) trans-epochally?

Please refer to our website for further information.

Contact: Hanne Østhus, hosthus@uni-bonn.de or Christian de Vito, cdevito@uni.bonn.de

"Work" Between Notion, Practice and Concept: Searching for Traces in Pharaonic Egypt

International Conference and Workshop
12–13 November 2019; Ägyptisches Museum Bonn, Regina-Pacis-Weg 7, 53113 Bonn

Labour history has long been written predominantly from a Western perspective, foregrounding linear and universal visions of progress and modernity. Assumptions based on both classical and Marxist economic thought have led to a Eurocentric conception of a gradual transition from bonded to free wage labour. In turn, all forms of unpaid and non-market work have been expelled from the picture and seen as unproductive non-work associated with “backward”, pre-modern and non-capitalist conditions. Yet, such assumptions are not reinforced through the study of the material culture and lexicon of Pharaonic Egypt.

The two-day international conference is dedicated to facilitating practical and pragmatic developments in Egyptology and related perspectives from related disciplines in ancient Oriental Studies. The workshop will be dedicated to the linguistic horizon of work in a comprehensive lexicographical survey and in connection with a conceptual and discourse historical analysis of the socio-cultural function of Labour in Pharaonic Egypt. This economic and socio-historical thematic field has been considerably under-researched in the field of tradition, especially in view of the scaling of dependency.

Please refer to our website for further information.

Contact: Ludwig Morenz, lmorenz@uni-bonn.de or Adam Fagbore, a.fagbore_egyptology@hotmail.com
Imprint

Publisher:
Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS)
Adenauerallee 18-22
53113 Bonn/ Germany
phone: +49 (0)228/ 73 62444
E-Mail: dependency@uni-bonn.de
www.dependency.uni-bonn.de/en

Responsible Editor:
Silvia Oster

Layout:
Wencke Uhl

BCDSS-Newsletter is a quarterly publication, free of charge.
The Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies is a Center for Advanced Studies funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).