

DAY 2 | 11 JANUARY 2023 |

WEDNESDAY

Session Four | Hybrid

Ibn Khaldun Conference Room | 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Moderator: TBC

Speaker 1: Associate Professor Mehmet Ozay (ISTAC-IIUM)

Topic: Cheng Ho: The Admiral of Ming Dynasty and His Engagement with Littoral States in the Indian Ocean

Speaker 2: Associate Professor Dr Tee Boon Chuan (UNITAR)

Zhenghe is neither Bukit Cina (بوکیت چينا) nor Bukit al-Sabur (三保山) in Malacca: An Incomplete Understanding of Zhenghe's Voyage in Malaysia

Session Five | Hybrid

Ibn Khaldun Conference Room | 11:00 AM - 12:45 noon

Moderator: TBC

Speaker 1: Dr Omar Min Keqin (Lincoln University College, Kelana Jaya)

Topic: Ma Huan (b. 1380): Zhenghe's Translator and Propagandist and the Malacca Visit

Speaker 2: Dr Peter Chang (University of Malaya)

Topic: The Legacy of Zhenghe and Its Implications on the Sino-Malaysia Relationship

Session Six | Online | 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Moderator: TBC

Speaker 1: Professor Dr Syed Khairudin Aljunied (Universiti Brunei Darussalam)

Topic: Zheng He and the History of Islamisation on Southeast Asia

Speaker 2: Assistant Professor Dr Koh Chong Wah (Department of Chinese Studies, Xiamen University Malaysia)

Topic: Zhenghe and the Nine Saints of Java

Speaker 3: Dr Ahmad Suryadi Nomi (Universitas Muhammadiyah Jakarta)

Topic: Cheng Ho Mosques: Legacy of Chinese Muslims in Nusantara

DAY 3 | 12 JANUARY 2023 | THURSDAY

Session Seven | Hybrid

Ibn Khaldun Conference Room | 10:00 AM - 12:00 noon

Moderator: TBC

Concluding Session

Topic: The Future of Zhenghe Forums

Utilizing perspectives of global history, this international conference explores the deep-rooted and wide-spread historical connections and exchanges along the Indo-Pacific rims, starting from coastal China and ending in east littoral Africa, during the 10th to 16th centuries. Three historical periods emerge. First is the broad, historical Indo-Pacific maritime connections and Eurasian continental communications from the Tang /Abassid dynasties to the Mongol period, which laid foundations for the Zhenghe voyages in the 15th century or the Age of Commerce. The second phase comprises the oft-neglected Zhenghe voyages in the 15th century and concurrent expansion of various networks in the Nanhai-Indo-Pacific region, focusing on state, quasi-state, and non-state factors in the transformation of Nanhai's local commercial, political, and cultural-religious landscape. The third phase consist of the erosion of Chinese influence in the face of rising European colonialism during the 16th to 17th centuries. The particular geographic nodes that formed the regional networks during the three historical phases include Quanzhou, Guangzhou, Jiaozhi, Champa, Kalah, Malacca, Luzon, Sulawesi, Sumatra and Java coasts, Indian coasts, Sri Lanka, Arabia, and East African coasts.

Focusing on the second phase, the Forum looks at the exchanges and connections between the populations of the two geographic entities that appeared to be far more multilayered than the maritime and official engagements. As more non-official sources and evidence emerge, ChineseSoutheast Asian relations encompass trade, religion, migration, genealogy, marriage, commodities, technologies, to name a few, before, during, and after Zhenghe's adventures into the South China Sea. The Forum will explore the complexities of these relations, as represented by key communities, businessmen, and religious figures and their little-known networks and activities that constitute the foundations of Chinese-Southeast Asian communications during that time period.

Organised by
International Institute of Islamic Thought and
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