Australian National University

Final Thesis Presentation:
Hybrid Event (online + in-person)

Re-Reading the History of Labour & Political Economy within the Arabian Gulf:

Coloniality, Curtailment and Continuities



Thesis Abstract

The word exceptional is often used to describe the Arabian Gulf – exceptional hydrocarbon wealth, exceptional demographics and an exceptional system of migrant labour, *kafala.* But what if this system is not exceptional but one shaped by Britain's interventions in the region in the 1800s, the region's entry into global capitalist markets and the adaptions of the region's ruling elites?
This presentation explores this question by re-reading the political history of labour within the region.
It shows how the curtailed mobility of migrants today in the Gulf is mimetic of the immobility of pearl divers in the 19th century; and how these continuities, which stretch across time, point to the region's deep interconnections with global histories of colonialism and capitalism.

Speaker:

Zoe Davies (PhD Candidate)
This presentation fulfills a requirement of her doctorial candidacy.

Date & Time

Tuesday 17th November 11am-12pm

Chair:

Prof. Karima Laachir (ANU)

Format:

In-person at the CAIS Lecture Theatre
Online via Zoom
https://anu.zoom.us/j/88233888792?pwd=g2VDG8B06QBXj1qgxMh2XfyFPILjaY.1

All welcome

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