

Workshop

Performing Local and Regional Level Administration and Politics: Ceremonies, Rituals and Routines (16th-18th c.)

12th December 2014

University of the Basque Country, Leioa
Faculty of Social Sciences and Communication, Seminario D (3rd floor)

Organisation:

Hanna Sonkajärvi

(UPV/EHU, Feodor Lynen Research Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation)

In recent years, ceremonies, rituals and routines have come to form a dynamic field of historical research. This one-day workshop looks at these phenomena in relation to the proceedings of local and regional administrations, law courts, political bodies, and corporations, rather than the court or high administration. Questions that might be considered include: How and to which end were ceremonies and rituals performed at the local or regional (intermediary) level? Did these acts of performance serve community building, legitimization, or rather the limitation or outright exclusion of competing claims to participation and power? Were contemporaries aware of the instrumental character of these ceremonies and rituals, and if so, how did they attempt to influence their performance and/or later record? Did they invent new ceremonies, rituals or routines, and if so, how did they try to establish these? Or did they rather try to preserve old traditions, and if so, why? What kinds of changes can we observe in the conduct of given ceremonies / rituals / routines in the long run? And finally, how do we deal with different types of sources related to these phenomena?

The aim of the workshop is to discuss work in progress and to exchange ideas and views about the current state-of-the-art and methodological issues related to research on early modern ceremonies, rituals and routines in local intermediary organizations and in local political settings.

The event is supported by the research group *Calendario, conmemoraciones y nación: imaginario colectivo y lugares de memoria en el País Vasco (siglos XIX y XX)* headed by Professor Jesús Casquete of the University of the Basque Country in Leioa and financed by the Spanish Secretaría de Estado de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación (HAR2011-24387).

The event is open to the public; attendance is free.

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Programme

12:30-12:45 Hanna Sonkajärvi (University of the Basque Country): Introduction

Section I: Symbolic Communication and Performance in Administration and Local Politics in Germany and the Netherlands

12:45-13:05 Birgit Näther (University of Munich)
Routines and Forms of Symbolic Communication in the Seventeenth-Century Bavarian Intermediary Level Administration

13:05-13:25 Uta Protz (University of Hanover)
Charity in the Dutch Republic: Philanthropy or Performance? – Reflections on the Emergence of a New Genre, the Regents' Group Portrait

13:25-13:45 Discussion

13:45-14:45 Lunch

Section II: Performing Ceremonies, Rituals and Routines in Intercultural Context

14:45-15:05 Lorena Alvarez Delgado (University of Cantabria)
Cultural Misunderstandings in the Spanish Philippines: Manila in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries

15:05-15:25 Aude Argouse (University de Chile/EHESS, Paris)
Rituals and Notarization in Santiago de Chile, c. 1650-1700

15:25-15:45 Christina Brauner (University of Bielefeld)
Ritual and Writing in Intercultural Treaty-Making on the Gold and Slave Coast, 17th-18th c.

15:45-16:15 Discussion

16:15-16:45 Coffee Break

Section III: Local and Regional Level Administration and Politics on the Iberian Peninsula

16:45-17:05 Thomas Weller (Leibniz Institute of European History, Mainz)
Exclusion or Inclusion? Foreign Merchants and Ritual in Iberian Trading Port Cities

17:05-17:25 Hanna Sonkajärvi (University of the Basque Country)
Receiving and Rejecting the Corregidor: The Ceremonies of the Juntas y Regimientos de Bizkaia in the Seventeenth Century

17:25-17:45 Imanol Merino Malillos (University of the Basque Country)
The Funeral Rites and Proclamation Ceremonies of Kings in Seventeenth-Century Biscay

17:45-18:15 Discussion

18:20-18:40 Closing Discussion