

In Europe and all over the world, mass violence and genocide have been a structural feature of the 20th century. Our research programme, **Corpses of Mass Violence and Genocide**, aims at questioning the social legacy of mass violence by studying how different societies have coped with the first consequence of mass crime: the mass production of cadavers.

What status and what value have indeed been given to corpses? What symbolic, social, religious, economic or political uses have been made of dead bodies in occupied Europe, Soviet Union, Serbia, Spain and also Rwanda, Argentina or Cambodia, both during and after the massacres?

Bringing together the perspectives of social anthropology, law and history, and raising the three main issues of destruction, identification and (re)conciliation, this research team conducted by anthropologist Elisabeth Anstett and historian Jean-Marc Dreyfus, will enlighten how various social and cultural treatments of dead bodies simultaneously challenge common representations, legal practices and morality.

The programme outputs should therefore open and strengthen the field of genocide studies by providing new theoretical tools for a better understanding of the of mass violence and its aftermath. This research programme, which has started in February 2012 and will develop over four years, is financed by a grant from the European Research Council.

www.corpsesofmassviolence.eu



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CORPSES
of MASS
VIOLENCE
and
GENOCIDE

CORPSES AND DESTRUCTION

1st Annual & International Workshop
of the Research Programme
« Corpses of Mass Violence and Genocide »

12TH, 13TH & 14TH september 2012

École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales

105 Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris – France

Renseignements & Inscriptions / Information & Registration
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Corpses of mass violence and genocide research programme First annual workshop

CORPSES AND DESTRUCTION

This workshop addresses the first phase of the research programme **“Corpses of mass violence and genocide”**. In the context of mass violence and genocide, death is not the end of the executors' work. After the abuses, the victims' corpses are treated and manipulated in very specific ways, amounting in some cases to true social engineering; this phase is remarkably little documented in the existing research. This conference aims therefore to explore this phase of destruction, across a range of extreme situations including mass cremations, concealment, profanation, displacement or re-burials. Focused on the 20th century, the conference will seek to reevaluate the motivations, the ideological frameworks and the technical processes at work in the destruction of corpses, taking a comparative and instrumental perspective which should open to new research in mass violence and genocide studies.

École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales
105 Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris – France

12th September 2012

14h00-15h30

introductory address by Elisabeth Anstett (CNRS, France)
& Jean-Marc Dreyfus (University of Manchester, GB)
Key note speech: Yehonathan Alsheh (Tel Aviv University, Israel)

16h00-17h30

Ideologies

- Chair : Joost Fontein (The University of Edinburgh, GB)
- Remi Korman (EHESS, France)
 - Michael Mc Connel (The University of Tennessee, USA)

13th September 2012

9h00-10h30

Criminology of mass violence

- Chair : Caroline Fournet (Gröningen University, Netherland)
- Jon Shute (University of Manchester, GB)
 - Kjell Anderson (The Hague Institute for Global Justice, Netherland)

11h00-12h30

Secondary mass grave

- Chair : Michel Signoli (CNRS-Aix Marseille Université, France)
- José Lopez Mazz (Universidad de Montevideo, Uruguay)
 - Sari Wastell (Goldsmith College, GB) & Admir Jugo (International Commission for Missing Persons, Bosnia).

14h00-15h30

Mass cremation

- Chair : Robert Jan Van Pelt (University of Waterloo, Canada)
- Elena Zhemkova (Memorial, Russia)
 - Elissa Mailänder (Sciences Po Paris, France)

16h30-18h30

In collaboration with the CNRS research-unit ADES (Anthropologie bio-culturelle, Droit, Éthique & Santé)

Projection of **«Las Manos en la Tierra»**, 52' documentary film (2010) by Virginia Martínez devoted to the role of the forensic anthropologists in Uruguay in the search for the desaparecidos of military dictatorship (1973-85). Projection followed by a round table with José Lopez-Mazz (Universidad de Montevideo, Uruguay), Michel Signoli (CNRS, France), Sévane Garibian (Université de Genève, Suisse), Elisabeth Anstett (CNRS, France) and Francisco Etxeberria (Universidad del País Vasco, Spain - to be confirmed).

14th September 2012

9h00-10h30

Governing the dead

- Chair: Finn Stepputat (DIIS, Denmark)
- Chowra Makaremi (CNRS, France)
 - Max Bergholz (University of Concordia, Canada)

11h00-12h30

Disposal

- Chair : Nigel Eltringham (University of Sussex, GB)
- Therkel Straede (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark)
 - Nicky Rousseau (University of the Western Cape, South Africa)

14h00-16h00

Concealment

- Chair : Sévane Garibian (Université de Genève, Suisse)
- Mario Ranalletti (UNTREF, Argentina)
 - Raymond Kevorkian (université Paris-VIII-Saint-Denis, France)
 - Adrian Cioflanca (Romanian Academy, Romania)

16h30-17h30

Conclusion

Robert Jan Van Pelt (University of Waterloo, Canada)

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