

Neue Vorlesung/New Lecture Class

Sri Lanka

Socio-Historical Perspectives from 13th century to the Present



The Department of History is happy to announce that the new Sri Lanka Chair Prof. Nirmal Dewasiri will teach the first ever lecture course on Sri Lanka in the Summerterm 2017

Abstract

The course discusses major historical forces that shaped "modern Sri Lanka" and sheds light on important problems of post-colonial Sri Lanka, focusing especially on issues of state and nation-building, economic transformations, major political developments such as transformations in the party system, armed insurgencies, and identity politics. The course will highlight four major periods, beginning with 13th century, which experienced the collapse of the so-called Rajarata civilization and the emergence of a new social and demographic reality after 13th century; the European colonial encounter; late colonial developments, with a special focus on the institutional foundations of the modern polity, the evolution of nationalisms and post-colonial experiments; and finally the disintegration of the precarious post-colonial equilibrium since 1980s. This lecture course will be of interest to graduate students of South Asian Studies, History (Global as well as South Asian), Politics, Social Anthropology and transcultural studies and all who are eager to gain insights into past developments in Sri Lanka.

Time/Place: Thursdays, 16.00-18.00, Room Z.10

Open for BA/MA SAS, History, Transcultural Studies and all interested in Sri Lankan history. See LSF for further info