

الْقُرْآنَ مِنْ قَبْلِ الْمُسَاطِيرِ بِلَا هُوَ رَخَارِفٌ
وَمِنْ سَاهَاتِ الْمُقْسَمِ بَعْدَ الْمُغْرِبِيْنِ أَوْعَ



UNIVERSITÀ DI NAPOLI
L'ORIENTALE | DAAM
DIPARTIMENTO ASIA,
AFRICA E MEDITERRANEO



20-21
November 2025

Palazzo Corigliano
Sala delle conferenze, 2nd floor
Piazza San Domenico Maggiore, 12 - Napoli

International
Conference
**From Coast
to Coast:**
Folklore and
the Cultural
Lives of the
Western Indian
Ocean

Wednesday, 19 november

19.00 – Welcome drink at Palazzo Venezia

Thursday, 20 november

9:30-9:45 – Institutional greetings

10.00 – Greetings & introduction

9:45-10:45 Keynote lecture: Sadhana Naithani, Jawaharlal Nehru University
Waters Carry Shores. Cultural Loops and Folklore in Western Indian Ocean

10:45-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-13:00 Nautical lexicons and creolised vocabularies

Shadi Kalantar,

University of Naples L'Orientale
Boats of Iran: A Nautical Glossary

Mohammad Bin Naser,

Kuwait University
Nautical Navigation: The Ecolinguistic Analysis of Kuwaiti Maritime Proverbs

Antonia Soriente and Horst Liebner,

University of Naples L'Orientale
Naming the Ship and the Sea: Konjo Maritime Terminology as Folkloric Archive and Indian Ocean Epistemology

From to C

Stefania Cavaliere,

University of Naples L'Orientale
Preliminary Notes on a Compendium of Nautical Phraseology from the Indian Subcontinent

13:30-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-16:00 Folklore as Archive: Performance, Resistance, and Maritime Networks

Maryam Nourzaei, Uppsala University

Tracing Origins Through Song: Afro-Baloch Lullabies of Sistan and Balochistan

Mette Rudvin, University of Palermo

Ancestral memory in a post-slavery coastal community in Pakistan: Recreating Sheedi social identity through music

Cezary Galewicz, Jagellonian University

and **Elena Mucciarelli,** University of Groningen

Songs of the sea, songs of the land: On two living archives of displacement from North Malabar

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

coast oast



16:30-18:00 Narratives of the
Sea across the Indian Ocean

Burkhard Schnepel, Martin Luther

University Halle-Wittenberg

*Princess Beti: Shifting Existential
Modes in the early modern,
archipelagic Indian Ocean world*

Tareq Alrabei, Gulf University-Kuwait

*The Sons of Sinbad: Orientalist
and Modern Arabic Literary
Representations of Maritime
History in the Gulf*

Annalisa Bocchetti,

University of Naples L'Orientale

*Navigating Wonder: The Sindbād's
Motif in Urdu Literary Networks*

Bachus C. aspir

A detailed historical map of the Indian subcontinent and surrounding regions, including the Red Sea and Persian Gulf. The map is titled 'MARE ARABICVM ET INDICVM' and features a compass rose and a fleur-de-lis. The map is filled with various place names, some of which are in Latin and others in their original languages. The map shows the coastline of Africa, the Indian subcontinent, and the islands of the Indian Ocean. The Red Sea and Persian Gulf are also depicted. The map is a colorful representation of a historical geographical knowledge.

Folklore

Friday, 21 november

9.30-11:00 Material Cultures and Maritime Worlds

Serena Autiero, Thammasat

University Bangkok

Wooden Doors across the Indian Ocean: Tracing mercantile communities from South Southeast Asia to the Swahili Coast

Daniela De Simone, Ghent University

Where the Forest Meets the Sea: Material Culture From the Andaman Islands and the Making of Oceanic Worlds

Emilio Cocco, University of Teramo, and **Jirayudh Sinthuphan**, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

The Lost Vessel: Exploring the Endangered Ocean-Based Life of the Moken in the Andaman Sea through the Lens of Symbolic Technology

11:00 -11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Transitions of repertoires and traditions

Brenda E.F. Beck, University of Toronto
The Seven Pleiad Sisters: A Tale That May Have Found A Home In Tamil Nadu Due to Arabian Sea Boat Traffic Four Millennia Ago

Christophe Vielle, FNRS, Belgium

Saints Brigid and Genevieve in the theatrical folklore of Malabar: what they tell us

Lara Scaiola, University of Naples

L'Orientale

Sufism at the border: the shared legacy of coastal shrines in Sindh and Kutch

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-16:00 Maritime symbolism and ritual practices

Sabir Badal Khan, University of Naples

L'Orientale

Gwāt or "Wind-Spirits": Possession and Healing Rituals of Psychosomatic Disorders among the Baloch in Southern Pakistan and Southeastern Iran

Michael Boivin, CNRS-EHESS, Paris

Devotion and the Aquatic Elements in the Material Culture of Sindh

Ahsan Imam, Jahangirnagar

University Savar, Dhaka

Endangered wildlife on the sea and coast and the beliefs and practices of sea-going fishermen: Perspectives from Bangladesh

جَلَّا مَا وَقَالَ إِذْ كَبُولَ فِيهَا بِسْرَ اللَّهِ مُجَرَّداً
بِجَادَ اللَّهِ لَكَ مِنْ وَقْلَ أَمَاكَ

Anupama Mohan, IIT Jodhpur

Charting the Blue Humanities: Oceanic Literatures and the Flows of History in a World-System Framework

16:00-16:30 *Coffee break*

16:30-17:30 Guest lecture: Ananya

Jahanara Kabir, King's College, London
Performing Creolisation's Archipelagic Memory: Quadrilles of the Western Indian Ocean

19:00 Music Concert by Stefano Saletti Band: "Singing the Sabir: Soundscapes of Maritime Frontiers" at Lega Navale Italiana

Scientific and Organizing Committee:
Sabir Badal Khan, University of Naples

"L'Orientale"

Annalisa Bocchetti, University of Naples

"L'Orientale"

Stefania Cavaliere, University of Naples
"L'Orientale"

Daniela De Simone, Ghent University

