## China and the Middle East:

## Historical Connections and Comparisons Along and Beyond the Silk Roads

## 3-5 June 2018 Gilman Bldg. 496

## Sunday, June 3:

09:30-09:40 Opening Remarks

09:40-11:00

Panel#1: Between Persia and China: First Millennium Contacts

Chair: Domenico Agostini, Tel Aviv University

Sören Stark, New York University
"Trade and Canals: Some thoughts on Sogdian-Chinese
Relations during the 3rd Century CE and their

Consequences in Sogdiana"

Matteo Compareti, Shaanxi Normal University

"The Wild Boar Head in Sasanian Persia and Tang China: The Fortunes of an Enigmatic Symbol"

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break



### Panel#2: Mutual Religious Perceptions of East and West Asia <u>Jonathan Brack</u>, Hebrew University

"Arguing without Scripture: Comparing Notes between William of Rubrcuk and Rashid al-Din on Buddhism at the Mongol Courts"

#### **Dror Weil**, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science

"Beyond Fantasy - Images of Arabia and Early Islam in Popular Chinese Encyclopedias"

### Ori Sela, Tel Aviv University

"Before the Opium: The Threat from the West in the Eighteenth Century" 13:15-14:45 Lunch

### 14:45-15:45

### Screening of: Junk History [Gilman Bldg. room 223]

Produced by the Australian broadcasting Corporation, this video critically examines the creation and marketing of Gavin Menzies' book *1421: the Year China Discovered the World*. The panel which follows the screening will discuss some aspects relating to the film.

15:45-16:15 Coffee Break

### 16:15-18:15

Panel#3: The Maritime 'Silk Road' and the South Asia
Connection: Chinese Envoys and the Cosmopolitan Indian
Ocean: 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Century

### Angela Schottenhammer, University of Salzburg

"Why did Tang Dezong want to send a eunuch to the Abbasids?"

### Tansen Sen, NYU Shanghai

"Encountering Cosmopolitanism: Zheng He and the Maritime World of South Asia"

### Geoff Wade, Australian National University

"Ming Envoys to Southeast Asia in the 15th Century"

## Monday, June 4:

09:30-11:00

Panel#4: Political and Literary Perceptions and Conceptualizations

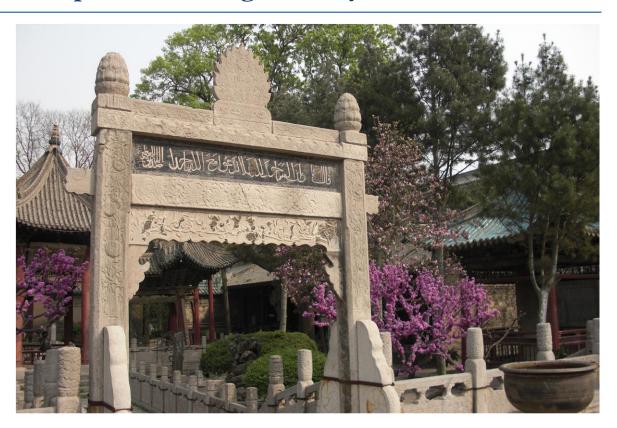
### Kaveh Hemmat, Benedictine University

"The Evidentiary Basis for Early Modern Islamicate Perceptions of East Asia"

### Ron Sela, Indiana University

"China in Central Asian Popular Lore"

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break



#### 11:30-13:00

# Panel#5: Contacts and Comparisons in the History of Medicine/Dealing with Epidemics

#### Asaf Goldschmidt, Tel Aviv University

"From Southern Epidemics to Cold Damage Disorders: The Epidemics that Transformed Medicine during the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127)"

### Stuart Borsch, Assumption College

"Dreadful Disaster, Dutiful Diligence: Counting Cairo's Corpses during the Black Death"

13:15-14:45 Lunch

### 14:45-16:45

### Panel#6: Arab Science in Qing China: Facts and Fantasy

### Andrea Breard, Université Paris Sud

"Conics in late Imperial China Was the Arab tradition forgotten?"

# <u>Chen Jiang-ping (Jeff)</u>, St. Cloud State University & Université Paris Diderot

"A comparative analysis of certain 'algebraic techniques' in China, Europe, and Middle East"

### Shi Yunli, University of Science and Technology of China

"Chinese Image of Astronomy from the Middle East in the Qing Period" **16:45-17:00** Coffee Break

17:00-18:00

### **Round Table**

18:30

# Opening Ceremony of the Exhibition: "Cultural Exchanges: Dun Huang and the Silk Road"

At: Chinese Cultural Center, Habarzel 30 (first floor), Ramat Hahayal, Tel Aviv

## Tuesday, June 5:

09:30-11:30

### Panel#7: Dunhuang: New Perspectives

### Zhang Yuanlin, Dunhuang Academy

"Dialogues among civilizations: Some References Related to the Middle East found in Dunhuang Grottoes"

### Wu Yang, Renmin University

"Eastern Old School meets Western Modern Academy in Early 20th Century"

### Li Wei, China Central Academy of Fine Arts

"Study of Portrait Draft Lines in Dunhuang Murals"