



Guest Lecture

Allen & Barbara Isaacman

Indivisible Histories: Racial Violence and Clandestine Migration from Mozambique to Colonial Zimbabwe, 1900-1980 ca.

Allen F. Isaacman is Regents Professor of History at the University of Minnesota and Extraordinary Professor at the University of Western Cape. He has won fellowships from the Guggenheim and MacArthur Foundations, among others. His research interests include comparative History, Central and Southern Africa, social History of Mozambique, rural protest, slavery and racial problems. Barbara S. Isaacman was Professor of Law at the Universidade Eduardo Mondlane in Mozambique. She published *Women, the Law and Agrarian Reform in Mozambique*, and co-edited several monographs on the history of Mozambique.

Problems of “invisibility” pose significant epistemological and methodological problems for historians of Africa. Consider labor migrations from Mozambique to Southern Rhodesia. The Portuguese colonial archives are replete with reports of Portuguese authorities and settlers concerned about the “illegal flights” of their subjects and its cost to the treasury. Rhodesian authorities documented in detail the number of Mozambicans entering their age and gender, their health status and how quickly the refugees could be processed and sent to work on farms and mines. Conspicuously absent from both archives, however, are the trekkers’ contemporary accounts describing their lived experiences and the innumerable dangers and challenges they encountered during the hundreds of miles many traversed on foot. These issues are ignored in most scholarship on the subject, which relied entirely on colonial archives. This lecture addresses these issues as well as questions of cognitive mapping.

The lecture will be held in English on:

Thursday, 19 April 2018, 3 pm
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
IGK Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History
Georgenstraße 23, 6th Floor, 10117 Berlin

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience to
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