

das Potential handelbarer Emissionsrechte hin. Rolf Ulrich Sprenger (Ifo Institut) zeigt Beschäftigungspotentiale der Umweltpolitik und diskutiert regional ausgerichtete Entwicklungspfade. Raimund Bleischwitz arbeitet mit der Studiengruppe am Wuppertal Institut zu Stoffströmen, Energie, Verkehr und Gebäuden. Das Wuppertal Institut betont neben technischen Potentialen die Bedeutung von Informationen und der Wissensgenerierung. Es analysiert Einsatzmöglichkeiten strategischer Ziele nach Art eines „Faktor Vier“, um Suchbewegungen der Unternehmen zu stimulieren und um die gesamtwirtschaftliche Orientierung für die Produktivitätsentwicklung zu erhöhen.

Das Studienprogramm ist insgesamt relativ breit angelegt. Einige Studien arbeiten an der unmittelbaren Verbesserung der japanischen Abfall- und Umweltpolitik. Andere untersuchen Übergänge und Perspektiven der Zukunftsoptionen Abfallvermeidung und Rohstoffschonung. Gemeinsame Untersuchungsobjekte sind Preis- und Marktentwicklungen für wiederverwendbare Stoffe und Produkte. Im Jahr 2002 sollen Überlegungen angestellt werden, wie die beiden Bereiche „alternde Gesellschaft“ und „Umweltänderungen“ gemeinsam analysiert werden können. In Japan wird relativ unbefangen über eine Verlängerung der Lebensarbeitszeit diskutiert. Verluste bei der Arbeitsproduktivität könnten durch eine Erhöhung der Ressourcenproduktivität über Mehrfachverwendungen, Reparaturen etc. teilweise kompensiert werden. Die Funktion von Ökosteuern, Ökofonds und der Finanzmärkte zur Erhöhung intergenerativer Gerechtigkeit bei gleichzeitiger Unterstützung der Märkte für Öko-Effizienz scheint ein weiterer Untersuchungsgegenstand zu werden. Alles in allem ist die Förderung internationaler Forschung zur Bearbeitung von Langfristfragen durch die japanische Regierung vorbildlich und ein Gewinn für alle Beteiligten.

Raimund Bleischwitz

Slavery, Unfree Labour and Revolt in Asia and the Indian Ocean Region

Avignon, 4 – 6 October 2001

From October 4 – 6 the third *Colloque internationale sur l'esclavage* was held in Avignon, France, on Slavery, Unfree Labour & Revolt in Asia and the Indian Ocean Region. It attracted 46 participants from 17 countries (France, Ethiopia, the USA, South Korea, Mauritius, Thailand, Australia, Nepal, the UK, Italy, Germany, Canada, Senegal, Portugal, India, Tanzania and South Africa). They included economists, anthropologists, and especially historians.

K.D. Chaudhuri opened the conference with a keynote address on 'State, Power and Unfree Subjects in the Indian Ocean'. The conference sessions were organised around central themes: 'Defining Unfree Labour and Revolt' (discussant: Martin Klein), 'Southern & Eastern Africa' (Edward Alpers), 'The Indian Ocean Islands' (Gwyn Campbell), 'Southeast and East Asia' (Anthony Reid), 'Females and Children' (Angela Schottenhammer), 'Islam' (Hussein Ahmed), 'The Indian Sub-Continent' (K. Raviraman), 'Overview of the Asia-Indian Ocean Regions' (Michael Salman) and 'The Indian Ocean/Asian and Atlantic Systems Compared' (Joseph C. Miller). Similar to the first two Avignon conferences on slavery, the papers were not presented by their authors in the several panels. Instead they were distributed in advance and at the beginning of each session a discussant (*rapporteur*) give a c. 30 minute summary of the main ideas of the papers, at the same time stimulating the following discussion (one hour) by addressing particularly problematic and interesting ideas and arguments.

The conference committee comprised Gwyn Campbell (Université d'Avignon – conference coordinator), Hilligje van't Land (Institute for American Universities, Avignon), Edward Alpers (UCLA) and Michael Salman (UCLA). Sponsors included The International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden, the Institute for American Universities (IAU), Avignon, the Programme franco-indien de coopération en sciences sociales, Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris, the Social Sciences Division, College of Letters and Science, University of California, Los Angeles (Dr. Scott Waugh, Dean), and the CIRA (Comparative and Interdisciplinary Research on Asia), University of California, Los Angeles, and the Université d'Avignon.

In the first session Martin Klein (University of Toronto) introduced two major definitions of unfree labour and revolt. The following sessions were basically arranged according to world regions: Southern & Eastern Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Southeast & East Asia, the Indian Ocean Islands, and the Islamic world. They were followed by a panel on the role of females and children in slavery. Finally, an overview of slavery in Asia and the Indian Ocean was presented by Michael Salman (University of California, Los Angeles), while John C. Miller (University of Virginia) compared the Indian Ocean, Asian and Atlantic Systems and drew a final conclusion.

Discussions, in English and French, focussed on the meanings of 'freedom' and 'unfree labour', the distinction between 'slave' and non-slave unfree labour, the differences between European-run and indigenous slave systems, the nature of 'resistance' to unfree labour regimes, the widespread phenomena of non-resistance, the male-female roles in resistance, the difficulty of applying terms used in the discourse on the Atlantic system to the Asia and Indian Ocean regions, and problems of research, including inter-

pretation of non-western systems. Two basic definitions of slavery based on what had been said in the papers had been provided at the beginning of the conference. The first and most widespread definition saw slavery as an institution in which individuals are the personal property of a master – whoever this may be – for whom they have to do forced labour without possessing any rights or receiving any salary. They are legally unfree individuals (legal aspect) doing forced labour for a master – who exploited them for his own benefit and profit (economic aspect) (1). Consequently, slaves can be purchased and sold like commodities. The second definition saw the kinlessness of slaves as their major characteristic (2). This second definition, however, already presupposes slavery and therefore can not really be regarded as an *explanation* of the term “slavery”. Rather does it pertain to one particular characteristic of slavery. And, although kinlessness may have been a not unimportant social attribute of slaves, it certainly does not make up the concept nor the crux of slavery. In the final discussion it was agreed that slavery should be seen more as a process than as an institution. This definition tries to do justice to all the different forms of slavery – such as for example the kidnapping and trafficking of young girls – that bear no relation to the situation of slaves in ancient Greece or Rome or the well-known Atlantic system of slavery and slave trade. There, as a rule, slaves played an important economic role, the reason for the enslavement being primarily the search for cheap labour. But, as for example in the case of a young girl who has to work for and satisfy her master in various ways and who is considered his property, the economic aspect is certainly not the major impetus for her enslavement.

The conference undoubtedly constituted a great opportunity to learn more about the “internationality” of the slave trade and forms of slavery in the modern world as well as about forms particular to specific societies. And, it certainly helped to shed more light on forms of slavery still existing today, albeit different from what we know as the “traditional, true slavery”.

The fourth *Colloque internationale sur l'esclavage* will be held in Avignon from 16 – 18 October 2002. It will be devoted to the topic *Women in Slavery* – in honour of Suzanne Miers. It will examine the roles of women in slavery across all geographical regions of the world, in different systems of slavery (indigenous and imported), covering periods from antiquity to contemporary times, as well as trade in female slaves and the means of acquiring them, and their tactics of ‘resistance’ and other accommodations to the positions in which they found themselves.

Angela Schottenhammer