

Timor-Leste:

Colóquio Internacional TLSA-PT

A Ilha e o Mundo

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The Island and the World

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Centro de Estudos Sociais (Alta),
Universidade de Coimbra (Portugal)

TLSA-PT 2020 ACCEPTED PANELS AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Imagem: cortesia Manuela Rodrigues

Organização / Organizaçãun / Organization: **TLSA-PT, Timor-Leste Studies Association - Secção Portugal**
Apoio / Apoio / Support: **CES-UC, Centro de Estudos Sociais da Universidade de Coimbra**
AIA-SEAS, Associação Ibero-Americana de Estudos do Sudeste Asiático



The Scientific Committee announces that 11 panels have been accepted for TLSAPT2020: *Timor-Leste, the island and the world* (see below).

We are now accepting paper proposals – whether directly to one of the approved panels or to a general, non-thematic session – until 31.03.2020.

Please send submissions to tlsapt2020@gmail.com

At this moment only the list of panels and the conveners will be announced. Details about panel participants, as well as paper abstracts, will be added after the deadline for the call for papers and the acceptance decision of all the proposals received.

PANELS

Atauro peoples' local knowledge and cultural policies. Preliminary findings of an interdisciplinary research

Kelly Silva

Abstract: The panel aims to share preliminary results of the project entitled “Cultural policies and heritage in Eastern Insulindia”, carried out in different villages of Atauro by a team of 10 researchers between 2019 and 2021. Two particular issues are to be discussed: 1. Dynamics of production and reproduction of local knowledge and their impact on people cosmology and everyday life; 2. Cultural policies led by governance agents as the State, local leaders, non-governmental organizations, churches, among others. To unveil some of the complexes mediations by which collective life has been negotiated in Atauro is the main objective of the panel.

Developing Language and Literacy Policy in a Global Age: The Case of Timor-Leste

Marilyn Martin-Jones, Estêvão Cabral

Abstract: The proposed panel makes the case for critical ethnographic research into the processes involved in language-in-education policy-making in nations in the Global South, such as Timor-Leste. We argue that research of this nature allows us to take account of: (1.) the discursive and ideological challenges facing nation-states and educational institutions in developing language and literacy policy in a global age, and (2.) the specific situated ways in which globalised discursive and ideological processes shape local debates, local policy processes and pedagogic practice. In making our case, we draw on recent policy-related research of a critical ethnographic nature that has been conducted in different sectors of education in Timor-Leste. We present the findings of four studies focusing, in turn, on the sectors of primary education, teacher education, higher education and adult literacy.

In 2002, Timor-Leste became the first new nation of the twenty-first century, after 24 years of occupation by Indonesia and after more than four centuries of Portuguese colonial rule. On Independence, Portuguese and Tetum (a lingua franca and the most widely spoken local language) were adopted as co-official languages and the regional languages of Timor-Leste were defined as ‘national languages’, while English and Bahasa Indonesia were designated as ‘working languages’.

As in many post-colonial contexts, the government of this multilingual nation has faced challenges of a logistical, discursive and ideological nature, in implementing this language and literacy policy, particularly in the educational sector

(for details, see Boon, 2019; Taylor-Leech, 2009; Cabral, 2013; Cabral and Martin-Jones, 2018). These challenges have been compounded by the expansion of bi- and multi-lateral cooperation and of the role and influence of supra-national bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) operating internationally. As scholars, such as Duchêne (2009) have observed, supra-national bodies and international NGOs have become significant new sites for the production of discourses about multilingualism and about literacy, as the power of nation-states (particularly those in the Global South) has been eroded within the new global order.

In this panel, we will examine different discourses about language, literacy, multilingualism, education and nation-building which have surfaced in Timor-Leste over the last decade or so in national and institutional policy-making, in policy documents produced by international agencies and in debates that have taken place in civil society. We also consider some of the ways in which local social actors, in different contexts – teachers in schools and universities, teacher educators and coordinators of adult literacy programmes – make sense of and navigate these wider discourses as they deal with the daily challenge of translating language-in-education policies into pedagogic practice.

The panel draws together researchers from Australia, Brazil, The Netherlands, Timor-Leste and the United Kingdom who have been engaged in research related to language and literacy policy and practice in different sectors of education in Timor-Leste.

Educação, Ciência e Tecnologia no Timor-Leste: leituras práticas

Samuel Penteado Urban

Abstract: O contexto educacional atual de Timor-Leste é resultado de processos históricos ligados ao paradigma da apropriação/violência (Santos, 2009). Em contraponto, em meio a luta pela restauração da independência, inicia-se um processo de Educação Popular, mais especificamente no que se refere a Pedagogia Maubere, que destaca-se pelo uso de formas alternativas de educação e ação, utilizando-se de conhecimentos populares e outros advindos da ciência moderna, que se aproximam muito do que se entende por Tecnologia Social na perspectiva de Dagnino (2009), Novaes e Dias (2009) e Thomas e Santos (2016). Após a restauração da independência, surgem manifestações práticas acerca da Tecnologia Social na sua íntima relação com a educação, que englobam tanto a educação escolar oficial, quanto o ambiente da educação popular. O objetivo da presente proposta é de externalizar e discutir essas experiências práticas na íntima relação entre Ciência, Tecnologia e Educação.

International solidarity with the struggle for Timor-Leste self-determination

David Webster, Hannah Loney, Rui Graça Feijó

Abstract: This panel welcomes papers focusing on the international solidarity with Timor-Leste long struggle for self-determination. Solidarity was both expressed by friendly nations in their official capacity, and by grassroots, civic movements in a variety of countries.

Land tenure in Timor-Leste: between resilient custom and the resurgent state

Susanna Barnes

Abstract: This panel focuses on the development and implementation of Timor-Leste's land law. While the Land Law (RDTL 13/2017) largely reflects international discourses of 'best practice' aimed at securing land and property rights and reducing tenure insecurity, tensions remain in relation to resilient customary practices and the resurgent state. Panelists will explore how different meanings and values relating to land and natural resources are articulated in relation to custom and the State; the contingent and contextual nature of these meanings and values and the implications of this for the implementation of land legislation.



Recursos, Ambiente e Território - uma perspetiva transdisciplinar

Pedro Damião, Pedro Nogueira, Vanda Narciso

Abstract: Os territórios são historicamente construídos, refletindo a interação entre as comunidades humanas e os recursos biofísicos, originando padrões socioeconómicos e culturais diversos. A ilha de Timor, e Timor –Leste em particular, são exemplo dessa diversidade.

Nos recursos salientamos os de base geológica e os ligados aos ecossistemas naturais e seminaturais, englobando nestes últimos os sistemas agrícolas, pecuários e agroflorestais e nos primeiros os recursos minerais e energéticos.

A presente sessão acolherá trabalhos que reflitam sobre o papel dos recursos no ambiente e no território e como a interação destes factores influencia a diversidade, a cultura, o desenvolvimento e o bem-estar das populações em Timor-Leste. Assim são bem-vindos trabalhos, entre outras áreas, de geologia, energia, agricultura, florestas e ecossistemas naturais e seminaturais.

The East Timorese Resistance: A Transnational History

Michael Leach, Zélia Pereira

Abstract: Reflecting major research agendas currently being pursued in relation to Timor-Leste's struggle for self-determination, the panel welcomes papers examining the history of the East Timorese resistance from 1975-1999, and the transnational links with state and non-state actors that helped support it. Papers examining all aspect of the domestic military and clandestine resistance are welcome; along with those examining the transnational aspects of this history, including the history of the diplomatic front.

Timor-Leste and ASEAN: political discontents and social clashes in an (un)making ecumene

Paulo Castro Seixas, Nuno Canas Mendes, Nadine Lobner

Abstract: This panel is part of a CRISEA research which has been undertaken in the past two years, funded by the EU H2020 research and innovation program.

Timor-Leste's membership to ASEAN, firstly submitted in 2011, remains under observation. It is by now the longest attempt of a country to join the grouping, without any resolution in sight. We may ask how ASEAN's centrality is played in this particular case and how the delay of admitting the small country precisely tackles the (des)integration processes of the regional grouping.

The main turning points in the chronology of the political process of the ASEAN membership for Timor-Leste will be explored as internal and external discontents, considering Timor-Leste's resistance towards the Indonesian occupation as starting point. By analyzing internal discontents, we disclose the political framework of the country. Through the external discontents, the aim is to reveal ASEAN's perspective on the admission procedure.

Furthermore, a sociological point of view regarding the admission procedure to ASEAN will be presented through three groups of interest in Timor-Leste (political actors, civil society representatives, youth). Informants' narratives and perceptions will be outlined in order to elaborate on Inside-Outside relations in which the clash of egos in a clientelist context; the negotiation gap and the shadow of external invasion are going to be presented as main issues.

Finally, international regionalism is tackled as ecumene projections in which international media, the role of states and common people play different but relevant roles. Within this context, three ideal types of "ecumene" are going to be discussed, which bring Timor-Leste's position within a global scale into perspective.

Timor-Leste: línguas, literaturas, letramentos e cosmovisões em debate

Alexandre Cohn da Silveira, Hérica Pinheiro

Abstract: O presente painel se propõe a promover o debate interdisciplinar no que tange às questões linguísticas timorenses, em suas diversas manifestações e modalidades, observando os aspectos peculiares históricos, políticos, sociais e culturais que permeiam as dinâmicas linguísticas nas diversas regiões de Timor-Leste, bem como nas diásporas. Entende-se que os processos de letramento, ensino de línguas e multiculturalismo timorense incitam formas diferenciadas de entendimento dos processos e procedimentos linguístico-literários, bem como estão imbricados em lógicas e cosmovisões diversas das tradições ocidentalizadas e eurocentradas. O objetivo central deste painel é o debate amplo e aprofundado do diálogo entre cultura e línguas timorenses, construção de identidades e organização dos discursos que constituem, interna e externamente ao país, o que se entende por Timor-Leste e suas gentes.

Uma Lulik: rebuilding houses and communities

Susana de Matos Viegas, Lisa Palmer, Andrew McWilliam

Abstract: The widespread reconstruction of large ancestral ritual houses, known as uma lulik (sacred house), continue to be a prominent feature of the landscape of contemporary Timor-Leste. In their distinctive diversity of architectural styles, uma lulik represent symbolically charged ritual centres for the celebration of group identity and the reproduction of social alliances that signpost a localized return to custom. In this panel we are interested in papers that approach 'the house' from one or more of the following inter-related perspectives. Namely; 1) The rebuilding of Uma Lulik as a continuing and widespread feature or post conflict recovery and the extent of innovation in the newly constructed built forms; 2) as focal sites for the enactment and reproduction of its membership and alliance networks; 3) as sites for communication with house ancestors and the more-than-human world to secure their protection and support; 4) as centres for local governance, and the ritual management of the agricultural cycle and the natural resources of the domain. 5) as an (elusive) representative of Timorese national patrimony and government policy making.

Using visual media and creative approaches in communicating activism and struggles for social change: the case of Timor-Leste

Marisa Ramos Gonçalves, Vannessa Hearman

Abstract: Activism, its task of reimagining an alternative future in particular, has been bound up with creative expression and practice throughout the world. Protesters have used arts-derived forms of expression to demand social and political change, from visual formats such as photographs and posters to the performance of music and theatre. This panel examines how visual media and the arts have been deployed not only as a way to critique and contest inequitable power structures, but also to share and relate histories of activism and struggles in- and about East Timor/Timor-Leste, including in museums and educational institutions. In Timor-Leste, visual media and arts have been used to memorialise the struggle to resist colonialism, to foster a sense of national identity and to address the need to tell East Timorese histories and transmit them to younger generations.

In this panel, researchers analyse how the arts and the visual media have been used in Timor-Leste to memorialise the past, to communicate histories of activism as well as how they are used in rights campaigns today. Internationally, activism in support of East Timor during the Indonesian annexation relied on visual arts such as photography, film, painting and drawing to convey something of this contested territory and help bind viewers to the plight of the people there. The research presented looks into how visual images and creative media have been used in relating experiences of activism and the telling of East Timorese histories, as well as their limitations.

This panel accepts papers in English, Portuguese and Tetun languages.