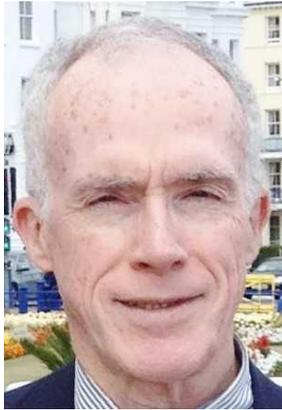


CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Professor Philippe Beaujard

Institut des Mondes Africains-IMAF, Paris

Title of keynote:

**Exchanges Between East Africa and Asia
Between the 1st and the 15th Century**

Biography

Philippe Beaujard is an agricultural engineer, an Anthropologist and a Historian. He has made fieldwork in Madagascar for 25 years and has published five books on this island. He also published a large book in Global History, entitled *Les mondes de l'océan Indien* (2 volumes, Paris Armand Colin, 2012). An updated version of this book will be published in English in 2019 by Cambridge University Press.

Abstract

At the beginning of the Christian Era, expanding exchange networks led to the formation of what can be viewed as a world-system in which the Indian Ocean held a central position. As early as the first cycle of this system (1st- 6th centuries), East Africa built itself as an interface linking dominant cores and peripheries. During the second cycle of the system (7th-10th centuries), the arrival of Arabo-Persian Muslims on the African coast contributed to the elaboration of an incipient Swahili culture. This culture extended to the Comoros and Madagascar between the 8th and 10th centuries, and met the Austronesian migrants who settled on these islands. During the third systemic cycle (10th-14th centuries), the Swahili coast was fully transformed into an active semi-periphery, especially from the thirteenth century onward. During these early period, Indians probably played a role that remains underevaluated.