

# **History of Mathematical Sciences: Portugal and East Asia IV**

**Europe and China:  
Science and Arts in 17-18 Centuries**

6-8 November 2008, Beijing

## **Second Circular**

### **Organizers**

*Luis Saraiva, Catherine Jami, Liu Dun, and Luís Filipe Barreto*

*Institute for History of Natural Science, Beijing*

*Macao Scientific and Cultural Centre, Lisbon*

*Center of Mathematics and of Fundamental Applications, University of Lisbon*

*China-Portugal History of Sciences Center, Beijing*

### **Sponsors**

*Chinese Academy of Sciences*

*National Natural Science Foundation of China*

*Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology*

## **Main Topics**

1. Europe and China: Science and Arts in 17-18 Centuries
2. Sino-Portuguese Relations and the the Jesuit Mission
3. In Memory of Tomas Pereira (1645-1708)

## **Scheme**

The series of conferences “*History of Mathematical Sciences: Portugal and East Asia*” started in 1995, with a meeting held at the Convento da Arrábida, Portugal (organizers: José Francisco Rodrigues and Luis Saraiva, University of Lisbon, supported by the CMAF -Center of mathematics and of fundamental applications--of the University of Lisbon, and by the Orient Foundation), and was continued in 1998 with a conference held at the University of Macao (organizers: Luis Saraiva and Catherine Jami, supported by University of Macao and CMAF, University of Lisbon). A third meeting was held at the University of Tokyo in 2005, as part of the Sixth International Symposium on the History of Mathematics and Mathematical Education Using Chinese Characters (6<sup>th</sup> ISHME) (organizers: Luis Saraiva, Catherine Jami and Chikara Sasaki, CMAF of University of Lisbon and Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Tokyo).

The main goal of these conferences is to better understand how scientific knowledge circulated between Europe and East Asia, with the main focus on China, in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries, and in particular what role Portugal, as the patron of Jesuit missions in Asia,

played in this transmission.

The 4<sup>th</sup> conference will focus more specifically on the ways in which the Portuguese Jesuits themselves contributed to shaping the sciences and the arts in the late Ming and early Qing China in the broader context of the circulation of Western learning in early modern East Asia. In particular, the following topics will be discussed: responses to the mathematical sciences and to Aristotelian cosmology among Chinese scholars, the sciences at the court of the first Qing emperors, and the reception of European music, both as an art and as a science.

## **Practical Information**

### **1. Dates**

6-8 November 2008

### **2. Venue**

The Conference and main accommodation venue will be arranged at the Beijing Friendship Hotel, one of the largest four-star garden-style hotels in China. Situated in northwest Beijing and within one hour's drive from Beijing International Airport. Address: 1 Zhongguancun Nandajie, Haidian District, Beijing 100873 China. Tel: +86-10-68498888, Fax: +86-10-68498866.

### **3. Accommodation**

The conference will pay each participant from out of Beijing for the hotel at most four nights (Nov 5, 6, 7, and 8), and take care of the meals

for all participants during the conference. A small subsidy for local transportation will be available. For those who plan to stay longer, the organizers can help them either to have a special price at 480 Yuan (about 53 Euros) /per night in the same hotel, or move to a cheaper place (about 300 Yuan/per night). Please inform our secretaries in advance if you have a specific request such as the extra stay.

#### **4. Abstracts**

In order for the book of abstracts to be ready by the beginning of the Conference it is essential that every speaker, if not yet, send the abstracts to organizers as soon as possible, but at latest by October 25.

#### **5. Conference Schedule**

Each speaker will have 30 minutes for his or her presentation; this will be followed by 15 minutes of discussion. The exact schedule of the conference and further information will be given in the Third Circular by the end of October.

#### **6. Conference Secretariat**

The Secretariat is settled in the  
Institute for History of Natural Science  
Chinese Academy of Sciences  
137 Chao Nei Street, Beijing 100010  
Fax: +86-10-6401-7637

In case you have question or need any specific assistance please do not hesitate to contact our secretaries:

Dr. Lu Dalong: [ludl@ihns.ac.cn](mailto:ludl@ihns.ac.cn) (13901099898)

or Dr. Sun Chengsheng: [chengsheng.sun@gmail.com](mailto:chengsheng.sun@gmail.com) (13521149497)

# Preliminary Programme

## 5 November evening

Informal reception

## 6 November morning

**Opening remarks:** Liu Dun, Catherine Jami, and Luis Saraiva

Chair: Liu Dun

### **Session 1 Portugal and the Jesuit missions in Asia**

Rui Magone (Emory University, Atlanta), “Portugal and the Jesuit mission to China: new trends in historiography”

Alexei Volkov (National Tsing-hua University, Hsin-chu), “The Jesuits in Vietnam: evangelisation, science, and politics”

Break

Chair: Han Qi

Henrique Leitão (University of Lisbon), “How China influenced mathematical practice in Portugal: the Jesuit long distance network of schools”

### **Session 2 Chinese scholars and Western science, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries**

Hsü Kuang-tai (National Tsing-hua University, Hsin-chu), “‘Donglinist’ Xiong Mingyu’s three-stage acceptance of Western learning: from *Ze cao* to *Gezhi cao*”

## **6 November afternoon**

Chair: Alexei Volkov

Sun Chengsheng (IHNS, Beijing), “Transformation and assimilation: the response of Chinese literati to Western cosmology in the late Ming and early Qing period”

Tian Miao (IHNS, Beijing), “Western learning and Han learning during the Qianlong and Jiaqing reigns”

Break

Chair: Tian Miao

### **Session 3 The Jesuits and knowledge of China in Europe**

Han Qi (IHNS, Beijing), “The Jesuits and the study of Chinese astronomy in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries”

Nii Yoko (People’s University of China, Beijing/Tokyo University), “The French Jesuit Amiot and Chinese Music in the 18<sup>th</sup> century”

## **7 November morning**

Chair: Henrique Leitão

### **Session 4 Tomás Pereira (1645-1708)**

Isabel Pina (CCCM, Lisbon), “Some data on Tomás Pereira’s life and deeds”

Davor Antonucci (University of Rome), “Pereira’s trip to Tartary”

Break

Chair: Lim Jongtae

Wang Bing (IHNS, Beijing), “Thomas Pereira and the knowledge of  
Western music in 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century China”

Joyce Lindorff (Temple University, Philadelphia), “Pereira’s contributions  
to the *Lilü Zhengyi* in the context of 17<sup>th</sup>-century  
European music theory”

### **7 November afternoon**

City Excursion: details will be announced in the Third Circular.

### **8 November morning**

Chair: Catherine Jami

#### **Session 5 New sources on Western science at the Kangxi court**

Efthymios Nicolaidis (National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens),  
“Verbiest’s manuscript on astronomy and mechanics  
(1676): from Beijing to Moscow and Constantinople”

Watanabe Junsei (Gakugei University, Tokyo), “Two Manchu manuscripts  
on mathematics at the Toyo Bunko and the Bibliothèque  
nationale de France”

Break

Chair: Rui Magone

Shi Yunli (USTC, Hefei), “A new thermoscope and a slice of Boyle’s  
experimental philosophy at the Kangxi Court”

### **Session 6 From Western science to imperial science**

Catherine Jami (CNRS, Paris), “The material culture of imperial mathematics: cannon, pendulum and scales in the *Yuzhi shuli jingyun* (1723)”

### **8 November afternoon**

Chair: Efthymios Nicolaidis

Lu Dalong (IHNS, Beijing), “The theory of lunar motion in *Yuzhi Lixiang Kaocheng* (1723)”

### **Session 7 Missionaries in Beijing during the Kangxi and Yongzheng reigns**

Liu Dun (IHNS, Beijing), “Yan Jiale (Karel Slavíček) and his scientific work in China”

Break

Chair: Luis Saraiva

Ugo Baldini (University of Padua), “Guillaume Fabre-Bonjour OSA (1670-1714): antiquarian, linguist, scientist”

Lim Jongtae (Seoul National University), “Western Astronomy vs. Korean Geography: Intellectual Exchanges between a Korean and the Jesuits Seen from Yi Kiji’s *1720 Beijing Travelogue*”

**Closing session**

**8 November evening:** Conference Banquet