

## EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION

The editors are proud to present the first issue for 2023 of the *Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies*. This issue includes two research articles and the launch of our new section, ‘Conversations.’

The research articles are interdisciplinary in the methodologies they adopt. James F. Warren and Lisa Woodward use a historical perspective to contextualise current typhoon vulnerability in the Philippines. They draw on case studies from the Spanish and American colonial periods and the current era. Their contribution is a historically grounded series of recommendations and interpretations that show how policies at local and global levels have increased levels of destruction and hardship related to extreme typhoons the last c.150 years.

Meanwhile, Sarah Gray uses methodologies from history and political science to emphasise high levels of continuity in governance practices across the colonial and independence eras in Mauritius. Drawing on analysis of governmental structures, tools of repression, and reverence for the British monarchy, she argues that independence did not necessarily equate with rupture in Mauritius’ political culture. Rather, her research asks us to reconsider how we contextualise independence moments, particularly in Africa and the Indian Ocean World, in *longue durée* contexts.

The new Conversations section aims to highlight recent or ongoing research in Indian Ocean World Studies that is pioneering in perspective and/or methodology, and which has significant implications for the wider scholarly field. Taking the form of a transcribed interview or questionnaire, it provides a venue for scholars to showcase their wider scholarly influences, their research processes, and/or their early findings in an accessible and less formal format.

This issue highlights three particularly interesting projects, which were originally published in three different forms: Mikko Toivanen’s research on transcolonial tourism in the nineteenth century, which stems from his graduate studies; Ruth Mostern’s research into the *longue durée* history of the Yellow River in China, which was published in her award-winning book; and Ruth Morgan’s research focused on gender and health between British India and Western Australia during the nineteenth century, which was published as a journal article.

We look forward to highlighting the broader research processes underpinning exciting publications and projects such as these in the future. If you have research that you would like to highlight in a Conversation with one of our editors, please reach out to us at [jiows@mcgill.ca](mailto:jiows@mcgill.ca).

The *JIEWS* Editorial Team