

# A Global History of Cotton Textiles, 1200-1850

GEHN Conference  
University of Padova, Italy  
17-19 November 2005

## Wednesday 16 November

Arrival

15.00 – 18.00 Visit to Padua and Scrovegni Chapel  
19.30 – Dinner

## Thursday 17 November

**09.00 – 09.30 Aula Nieveo**

Patrick O'Brien (London School of Economics)  
*Introduction*

**09.30 – 13.20 Aula Nieveo**

**Session 1. Cotton Textiles in Medieval and Early Modern Economies**

**Chairs: Pat Hudson and Larry Epstein**

09.30 – 10.20 Giorgio Riello (London School of Economics)  
*The ecology of cotton in the eighteenth century: possibilities and potentials*  
(Respondent: James Thomson)

10.20 – 11.10 Maureen Fennell Mazzaoui (University of Wisconsin)  
*The North Italian cotton industry, 1200-1800*  
(Respondent: Larry Epstein)

11.10 – 11.40 Break

11.40 – 12.30 Ulrich Pfister (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität)  
*Cotton manufacture in Switzerland and Southern Germany, 15th-18th centuries: agrarian pre-conditions, family economy and economic institutions*  
(Respondent: Pat Hudson)

12.30 – 13.20 Harriet Zurndorfer (Leiden University)  
*The resistant fibre: the pre-modern history of cotton in China*  
(Respondent: Kent Deng)

13.20 – 14.20 Lunch

14.20 – 15.10 Visit to the University

**15.10 – 1800 Aula Nieveo**

**Session 2. Cotton Textiles as a Global commodity**

**Chair: James Thomson**

15.10 – 16.00 Beverly Lemire (University of Alberta)  
*Shaping Fashion: Asia, Europe and the Trade in Indian Cottons, c. 1300-1800: a well-worn tale reconsidered*  
(Respondent: James Fichter)

16.00 – 16.50 Colleen E. Krieger (University of North Carolina)

	<i>'Guinea cloth': production and consumption of cotton textiles in West Africa before and during the Atlantic slave trade</i> (Respondent: Debin Ma)
16.50 – 17.10	Break
17.10 – 18.00	John Styles (University of Hertfordshire) <i>What were cottons for in the early industrial revolution?</i> (Respondent: Om Prakash)
20.00 –	Dinner

### **Friday 18 November**

**09.00 – 12.50 Sala del Senato Accademico**

***Session 3. Cotton and Global Connections: Trade, Merchants and Markets***

**Chair: Kaoru Sugihara and Kent Deng**

09.00 – 09.50	Om Prakash (University of Delhi) <i>India and the Indian Ocean in textile trade</i> (Respondent: Ian C. Wendt)
09.50 – 10.40	Prasannan Parthasarathi (Boston College) <i>Cotton textile exports from the Indian subcontinent, 1680-1780</i> (Respondent: George Souza)
10.40 – 11.10	Break
11.10 – 12.00	Huw Bowen (University of Leicester) <i>British exports of raw cotton and piece goods from India to China in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries</i> (Respondent: Harriet Zurndorfer)
12.00 – 12.50	Joseph E. Inikori (University of Rochester) <i>English East India cotton textile competition, 1750-1850: a window into the impact of imports on cotton textile production in West Africa</i> (Respondent: Suraiya Faroghi)
12.50 – 13.50	Lunch
13.50 – 15.00	Visit to the Duomo and Baptistery

**15.00 – 1800 Aula Nievo**

***Session 4. Industrialisation and de-industrialisation***

**Chair: Herman Van der Wee**

15.00 – 15.50	Suraiya Faroghi (Ludwig Maximilians University) <i>Ottoman cotton textiles, 1500 to 1800: the story of a success that did not last</i> (Respondent: Sakis Gekas)
15.50 – 16.40	Masayuki Tanimoto (University of Tokyo) <i>The rise and fall of cotton weaving districts in late-Tokugawa Japan</i> (Respondent: Kaoru Sugihara)
16.40 – 17.10	Break
17.10 – 18.00	Ian C. Wendt (Washington State University) <i>400 years of decline? Understanding the changing structure of the South Indian textile industry</i> (Respondent: Prasannan Parthasarathi)
20.00 –	Dinner

**Saturday 19 November**

**09.00 – 12.00    Aula Nieveo**

**Session 5. Manufacturing, Technology and Mechanisation**

**Chair: Prasannan Parthasarathi**

- 09.00 – 09.50    George Bryan Souza (University of Texas)  
*The French connection: Indian cottons, their early modern technology and diffusion*  
(Respondent: John Styles)
- 09.50 – 10.40    James Fichter (Harvard University)  
*Indian textiles and American industrialisation*  
(Respondent: Beverly Lemire)
- 10.40 – 11.10    Break
- 11.10 – 12.00    Patrick O'Brien (London School of Economics)  
*The precocious mechanization of a global history: English cotton textiles from John Kay (1733) to Richard Roberts (1822)*  
(Respondent: Herman Van der Wee)

**12.00 – 13.30    Aula Nieveo**

General discussion.\*

- 13.30 – 15.00    Lunch
- 15.00 –            Visit to Vicenza
- 19.00 –            Dinner in Vicenza

\* This will include the discussion of Takeshi Abe's paper "The Development of the Japanese Cotton Weaving Industry in Edo Period"

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## Participants

Huw Bowen	University of Leicester, UK
Vera Costantini	University of Venice, Italy
Kent Deng	London School of Economics, UK
Larry Epstein	London School of Economics, UK
Suraiya Faroghi	Ludwig Maximilians University, Germany
James Fichter	Harvard University, USA
Sakis Gekas	London School of Economics, UK
Giovanni Luigi Fontana	University of Padua, Italy
Pat Hudson	University of Cardiff, UK
Joseph E. Inikori	University of Rochester, USA
Colleen E. Kriger	University of North Carolina, USA
Beverly Lemire	University of Alberta, Canada
Debin Ma	National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan and LSE, UK
Maureen F. Mazzaoui	University of Wisconsin, USA
Elisabetta Novello	University of Padua, Italy
Patrick O'Brien	London School of Economics, UK
Prasannan Parthasarathi	Boston College, USA
Ulrich Pfister	Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Germany
Om Prakash	University of Delhi, India
Giorgio Riello	London School of Economics, UK
George Bryan Souza	University of Texas, USA
John Styles	University of Hertfordshire, UK
Kaoru Sugihara	Osaka University, Japan
Masayuki Tanimoto	University of Tokyo, Japan
James Thomson	University of Sussex, UK
Herman Van der Wee	University of Leuven, Belgium
Ian C. Wendt	Washington State University, USA
Harriet Zurndorfer	Leiden University, The Netherlands