

**Research Network on ‘The Indian Ocean as Visionary Area:
Post-Multiculturalist Approaches to the Study of Culture and Globalisation’**

Call for papers

**Conference on
‘Connecting Histories across the Indian Ocean: Religion,
Politics and Popular Culture’**

**Conveners: Pamila Gupta – pamila.gupta@wits.ac.za – Preben Kaarsholm – preben@ruc.dk –
and Rochelle Pinto – rochelle@cscs.res.in**

Venue: The Sun–n–Sand Hotel, Panjim, Goa

Time: 19 to 21 November 2009

**Abstracts of appr. 500 words should be sent as e-mail attachments in Word to
Inge Jensen at Roskilde University, Denmark – inge@ruc.dk – before 30 April 2009.**

**The deadline for submission of papers accepted for presentation will be 15
October 2009.**

**Accommodation in Goa for the three nights of the conference will be offered to paper presenters,
but they will be expected to cover their own costs of travel. A small number of travel subsidies
can be applied for from the organizers by paper presenters, who are members of the Indian
Ocean network, and unable to raise their own travel funds.**

**For further information about the Indian Ocean network, please see:
http://www.ruc.dk/isg_en/indianocean/**

Outline of conference focus

An earlier Indian Ocean network conference in Johannesburg in January this year explored ‘Print Cultures, Nationalisms and Publics of the Indian Ocean’. At the Goa conference, the aim is to develop further agendas for transnational research, transcending the points of reference provided by national historiographies. An important focus will be the dynamics of port cities, places of transit, and networks of migration, trade and communications, whose interconnectivities criss-cross the histories of empires, colonies and nations. Another focus will be the interaction of religious mobilisations and discourse in the Indian Ocean region – dialogues and confrontations between Muslim, Hindu, Christian, Buddhist and other institutions of faith. The interaction of religious diasporas and imperial structures will constitute a further theme. The conference will also bring into the discussion other types of popular cultural articulation and will attempt to understand the cross-border characteristics of identity strategies, cultural politics and struggles over citizenship within the Indian Ocean arena from the late nineteenth century to the present day.