

Paper ID	095
Author(s)	NIER WU
Title	Dates extraction and colonial impact on the date industry in the Middle East after the Great War
Abstract	
<p>Dates is a unique food and commodity in the Middle East. Mesopotamia, especially the Shat Al 'Arab area around Basra alongside the Persian Gulf is the center of the date industry in the Middle East. During its colonial expansion, the British Empire has been involved in the date industry in the Middle East since 19th century. Since the outbreak of World War I, the British launched the Mesopotamia Campaign and directly controlled Basra, and then conducted thorough investigation and pursued a direct control. During its mandate period, the British was involved in this industry through infrastructure construction, irrigation and water conservancy projects, economic and trade policies etc. Iraqi dates were further sold around the world through the transportation and trade networks of the British Empire, and have since become a global commodity. The colonial expansion of the British Empire in the Middle East was not only through military conquest and economic exploitation, but also through important environmental management. The “environmental development” conducted by the British authorities have not only affected the natural environment of the Tigris-Euphrates basin, but also constructed the recognition and knowledge system of dates species, and have had an impact on the production and dissemination of knowledge. This is also the “intangible environmental cultural heritage” of the British Empire.</p>	
Keywords	Dates, Colonisation, British Empire, Middle East

Paper ID	037
Author(s)	Lei Zhang
Title	Feeding Revolution: The Enterprise of Corn in North China, 1938-1950
Abstract	
<p>During the Second Sino-Japanese War a folksong spread throughout the anti-Japanese base of North China. Its lyrics included these words: “The Golden Queen is yellow, the sister is busy with harvesting you; the glittering maize are full of hills, hey! Soldiers and civilians unite against the famine.” The “Golden Queen” here refers to an American corn variety characterized by high yields and good adaptability. The Chinese Communists popularized it throughout the anti-Japanese bases in Shanxi, Shandong, Henan, Hebei, and Liaoning. By 1949 the Golden Queen was being cultivated in seven provinces of North China, with acreage of 10 million mu. Consequently, the communists established a corn-based agriculture that not only changed the planting system in North China but, more importantly, was crucial to the state-making of the CCP.</p> <p>Unlike previous research that focuses on production means such as land reform, cooperative organization, and land reclamation in the revolution history of Chinese communists, this paper will examine the establishment of communist rule in North China through the cultivation of corn from the perspective of environmental history and food history based on primary sources housed in China, Japan, and United States. Utilizing the concept of environmental colonialism, this paper argues that Chinese communists used corn as a colonial crop to attach peasants to the land and produce the grain needed to feed the revolution. Corn was employed not only to supply food, but to establish the political and economic integration of the communist regime, which persisted into the post-1949 period and profoundly shaped the agricultural campaign of the early People’s Republic of China (PRC).</p>	

Keywords	agrarian revolution, environmental history, food history, modern China
-----------------	--

Paper ID	230
Author(s)	TATSUSHI FUJIHARA
Title	Hunger policy in Japan and Germany from the 1930s to 1945
Abstract	
<p>From the 1930s to 1945, Japan and Germany created small empires to rival the imperial economies of Britain and France. In principle, they criticized Anglo-French-style colonialism and called for cooperation with their neighbors. But in both cases, starvation resulted from the forced integration of neighboring countries into the suzerain state's food policy. In Germany, a brutal method known as the Hunger Plan was used, and 3 million Soviet prisoners of war died of starvation, and famine broke out in various cities. In Japan, too, much grain was sent from the Korean peninsula to the suzerain state, causing a famine known as "Shunkyu" in rural areas, and in 1944, starvation broke out in occupied French Indochina, resulting in the loss of 2 million people. This study is a comparative study on the aspects of starvation in the small empires of the East and West in Eurasia.</p>	
Keywords	Food, Hunger, Empire

Paper ID	252
Author(s)	Chuyoung Won
Title	Nutrition for the development: Fish-protein economy in South Korea, 1960s-1980s
Abstract	
<p>This presentation examines the history of fish flour in South Korea from the 1960s to the 1980s, with a particular focus on its role in addressing nutritional challenges. According to the previous scholarship, protein supply to the working population was considered an urgent issue for the South Korean developmental state, so livestock and poultry industries became an important focus for the state. In this scholarship, fish flour, another important protein supplement in both livestock feed and human food, has been overlooked because of its livestock focus. Fish flour primarily existed in two forms: fish meal, a powder made from dried and ground fish that dates back to the colonial Korean period, and fish protein concentrate (FPC), a chemically processed protein concentrate that was introduced in the 1960s. In the global nutrition community, the emergence of FPC contributed to reframing fish flour as a technological solution to global hunger and the basis for economic development in developing countries. This study traces the historical development of a fish-protein-based economy in South Korea, beginning with the construction of FPC plants in the late 1960s, supported by international development aid. At the outset, FPC was seen as a solution to protein deficiencies in grain-based diets. However, by around 1970, shifts in coastal fish stocks and changes in fishing practices made domestic production of fish flour for human nutrition increasingly difficult. While the demand for fish flour in aquaculture and livestock feed production steadily grew, South Korea became more reliant on imported fish flour, especially from countries like Chile. In the process, the South Korean developmental state's fish-protein economy accidentally constructed trans-Pacific supply networks of fish flour, devastating Chile's coastal environments.</p>	
Keywords	fish, fish meal, FPC, fishery, protein