



DIPARTIMENTO DI POLITICA, ISTITUZIONI, STORIA

SEMINARIO

***DIFFERENTIAL MOBILITY:
UNREGULATED CIRCULATION OF
PEOPLE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN***

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In this paper I discuss unregulated circulation of people from South Asia to Australia and argue that these movements constitute both an integral and a destabilizing element in the conceptualization of the nation state and diasporic movements in the 19th and 20th century. Differential mobility for populations, depending on race, class and gender, meant that attempts by imperial and colonial governments to control the movements of their subjects met with indifferent success. Such unregulated journeys were hard to monitor, difficult to police and ultimately, impossible to regulate in the context of expanded imperial networks of communication and transport which opened up new ways for people, ideas and technologies to circulate under the radar of Empire.

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