

Confraternities and Parishes in Early Modern Nagasaki



Carla Tronu [Visiting Researcher at ICC]

June 4th [Thu], 18:00 – 19:30

Room 301, Building 10, Sophia University Yotsuya Campus
Lecture in English / No RSVP required

In the mid sixteenth century the Portuguese established regular trade between Macao and Japan, and the Jesuits set up missions in several areas of Japan. In 1671 the Nagasaki port city was founded and became the regular port for the Portuguese until 1649. Most of the Nagasaki citizens were baptized and engaged actively with the Catholic institutions and liturgy, and even supported the post-tridentine parish system. Nagasaki not only became a 'Christian city', but one of reference in Japan and abroad. In Nagasaki up to eleven parishes and six confraternities were formed, and priests from four missionary orders (Jesuits, Franciscans, Dominics and Augustinians) as well as Japanese diocesan priests were active. A look at the religious, social and economic dimensions of its parishes and confraternities, and how these were related, helps better understand the early modern Christian community of Nagasaki.

Carla Tronu is a historian of Japanese Religions and received her PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London in May 2012. Her PhD dissertation examined the process of Christianisation and the subsequent process of de-Christianisation of the city of Nagasaki between 1569 and 1643 by looking at the production of Christian, Buddhist and Shinto sacred spaces and rituals, and their dramatic transformations. She has taught Japanese religion and Japanese history at SOAS and at the Autonomous University of Madrid, and in 2014 held a postdoctoral research fellowship at Tenri University to carry out research on early modern Japanese Jesuit publications (*kirishitanban*).

