Call for Papers
Asian Journal of Women’s Studies (AJWS) and International Feminist Journal of Politics (IFJP) Double Special Issue

Remapping the Feminist Global: Encounters with and in Asia(s)

For the non-West and the Global South to produce new feminist knowledges and politics, beyond the existing critiques of eurocentrism and Global North domination, we need methods, praxes and critical consciousness not simply inherited from collusions in modernity, colonialism and feminist thought. This call for papers seeks to follow up on conversations in the 2022 joint conference of the Asian Center of Women’s Studies and the International Feminist Journal of Politics on “Remapping the Feminist Global: A Multi-vocal, Multi-located Conversation”. In the conference keynote lecture by Lisa Yoneyama, ‘Revisiting Feminist Aporia in Critical Race and Colonial Perspectives’, Yoneyama notes, ‘That Modern Feminist Thought shares its lineage with post Enlightenment liberal humanism and continues to render certain feminist practices assimilable to the colonial-racial regime of knowledge that has long underpinned what we normatively uphold as political modernity and its foundational assumptions.’1 The opening day panels and the research presentations and roundtables that followed also variously began from this premise, and many shared reflections on issues of complicity, witting and unwitting ‘assimilation’ into colonial-racial regimes and strategies of resistance and cooperation. Participants discussed how feminist research needs to straddle the global and local, and collectively reflect on emerging hierarchies not only between West and non-West but also the hierarchies and relations in and between ‘the non-West’. We affirmed that feminists urgently need methods for theorizing submerged histories that attend to the different locales of articulation. In these contributions to the conference, south-south relations and internationalisms were constantly referred to, but also at the same time just as often relegated to what Trinh Minh-ha termed, ‘special Third World women issue’. In other words, just because the conference happened in the geographic location of Asia, this did not necessarily mean the hierarchies within feminism, geopolitics and coloniality as a matrix of power were not reproduced in new and not so new ways.

Nonetheless, the conference was an occasion to collectively explore how Asia is plural, requiring urgent inter-Asian exchanges, and further, that the global world requires more careful remapping and engagement via and from Asia. With inter-Asia/plural Asias at the center, the conference sought to explore the global through interregional south-south connections such as Afro-Asia and Pacific-Indigenous-Asia. Centering Asia here was a way of disrupting hegemonic discourses and requires a reckoning with race, racialization and the dynamics of gender discourses that are shaped by Western and colonial, as well as local elite and popular

1 Full recording of the Opening Keynote conversation can be found here: [Keynote] Intersectionality and Humanity - ENGLISH. With Korean translation, here: [Keynote] Intersectionality and Humanity - KOREAN
influences. In this planned Double Special Issue in Asian Journal of Women’s Studies (AJWS) and International Feminist Journal of Politics (IFJP), we aim to gain a deeper understanding of how issues of race, gender and racialization are conceptualized and entwined, how they manifest, and what meanings they carry especially when using terminologies developed and spread from imperial spaces.

This CfP for a Double Special Issue in IFJP and AJWS invites research papers that further critically illuminate how we can proceed beyond the critique of Eurocentrism, and how we can recognize differences as a mode of building critical spaces, methods and praxes for feminist futures. Some guiding questions include:

- What kinds of conversations and collective efforts are necessary to not only provincialize but dislocate the West in efforts to generate and lay down new foundations for methods, research and political conversations?
- How are feminists theorising the global, praxis, gender, colonialism, resistance among others, from/in Asia(s) as conceptual-geographic critical and feminist sites? How do these theories and theoretical practices differ and/or relate to Western practices and genealogy?
- What kinds of feminist conceptualisations of regions, relinking of regions, and case for regionalism emerge when scholars of various disciplines, politics and locations enter in transregional dialogue?
- Conceptions of race, racialization and the dynamics of gender and sexuality discourses are shaped by Western, colonial and also local elite as well as popular influences. How are issues of race, gender and racialization conceptualized and entwined in encounters with/from Asia(s)?
- What regional and/or location specific global issues, histories, and political and cultural dynamics do feminists need to think about and prepare for?
- What ‘new’ feminist discourses and practices in encounters with/from Asia(s) are emerging that address gendered/sexualized violence?

We are calling for Extended Research Article Abstracts of 2-3 pages in length by 10 January 2023. Please send the abstracts to shine choi <s.choi@massey.ac.nz> and Khushi Singh Rathore <khushi.singhrathore@gmail.com>, and cc in acwsewha@ewha.ac.kr with the email title heading [AJWS-IFJP Special Issue Submission]. You do not need to have presented at the conference to make your submissions. 15-20 submissions will be selected and invited for an online workshop scheduled in April facilitated by the journal editors of AJWS and IFJP. We may further extend invitations to authors we think could produce important contributions by working together for the IFJP Conversation Section and AJWS equivalent. Full manuscripts will be due on 1 June 2023 and they undergo the standard review processes of the respective journals allocated for the papers.

Key Dates:
10 January 2023: Extended Abstracts due
30 January: Notification of Acceptance
11-12 April: Online Workshop where full length papers due 10 days before the Workshop
1 June: Full manuscripts due to AJWS and IFJP
Please note that the workshop is planned to ensure a timely and effective review process and therefore, workshop attendance is mandatory for accepted contributors. We expect Special Issue articles to all be published at the latest by the first half of 2024.