ANTI-ASIAN RACISM DURING COVID-19:
AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

– Call for Papers –

Submissions Deadline:
Thursday, 28 January 2021

Since the COVID-19 outbreak began in early 2020, there have been a growing number of attacks towards people of Asian (especially Chinese) descent. The "Shadow Pandemic" of Anti-Asian racism has exacerbated the impact of COVID-19 on Asians in various ways, including their mental health, interracial relationships, stigmatization and representation. This is by no means new, as with earlier outbreaks such as SARS in 2003, there were also increased incidents of racial profiling, which prompted all levels of government and civil society to combat both the spread of the virus and discrimination in Canada. Asian Canadians thus are facing a recurrent prejudice that needs to be addressed from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

It is against this background, and with the support from the Canada-China Initiatives Fund at York University and the Canadian Institutes of Health, that we are seeking abstract submissions for a two-day virtual workshop in June 2021 hosted by the York Centre for Asian Research at York University, Canada.

We aim to address the following questions of anti-Asian racism in Canada and beyond:

1) What explains the rising anti-Asian racism during the COVID-19 pandemic?
2) In what ways does anti-Asian racism affect Asian communities and interracial relations?
3) How can the escalation of anti-Asian racism be mitigated?

This workshop invites diverse theoretical and methodological approaches to make multidimensional analyses of these questions. We are especially seeking papers that use an interdisciplinary approach to examine these questions. For example, a sociological theoretical or methodological approach applied to study of the history of anti-Asian racism in Canada and beyond. Another example would be the application of theoretical perspectives in international relations to shed light on how tensions in the international dimension can spill over to the social dimension of interracial relationships.

We are seeking contributions from across disciplines and applying new methodologies, including but not limited to computational methods, large-scale modelling, and the innovative use of emerging technologies. Submissions should shed light on the factors that contribute to the rising tide of anti-Asian racism and their impacts on Asian immigrants, Asian Canadians and Asian Americans. They should focus on a specific aspect or a particular level of analysis of anti-Asian racism, such as at the community, national, regional or international levels.

We especially welcome papers that challenge existing orthodoxies of understanding racism and bring new insights and/or data that shake up conventional thinking, both theoretically and empirically.

Your abstract should not exceed 500 words. It should include: a) research question(s) that the paper will address (see above), b) theoretical and/or methodological approaches, especially how they contribute to the interdisciplinary approach, c) a title, and d) keywords.

Please submit your abstract at https://laps.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=989324 by **Thursday, 28 January 2021**.

Abstracts will go through a blind peer-review process.

Notice of Acceptance: Friday, 12 February 2021
Scholars whose abstracts are accepted will be invited to present a research paper at the June 2021 workshop. Accepted papers will be considered for publication in a special issue.

Timeline
- Abstracts due on **Thursday, 28 January 2021**
- Authors of accepted abstracts will be contacted by **Friday, 12 February 2021**
- First paper drafts (6,000–8,000 words) are due **Thursday, 20 May 2021**
- Virtual Workshop: **Thursday, 10 June and Friday, 11 June 2021**
- Revised papers for peer review due on **Wednesday, 25 August 2021**
- The peer-review process will begin in **September 2021**
- Target date for publication is **early 2022**

For general inquiries, please contact the York Centre for Asian Research at ycar@yorku.ca.

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York Centre for
Asian Research
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