

**[Please circulate to all interested parties]**

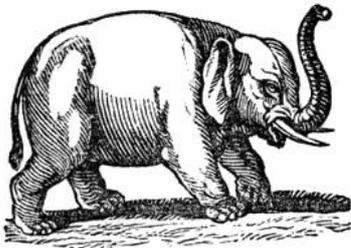
**CALL FOR PAPERS AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**THE ELEPHANT CONFERENCE @ SOAS**

**After Easter – March 2016**

**This conference will be held in India [venue t.b.c.]**

This e-mail is an advance notification of the SOAS Elephant Conference, which will be held in India immediately after Easter 2016.



[Please note the date –  
it is 2016, not 2015.]

Early expressions of interest are invited from those colleagues who may wish to present papers.

The conference will address all aspects of elephant culture, past, present and future and in all continents. It will deal with both material and cultural concerns, and will cover both the Indian and the African elephant. We welcome papers which deal with historical aspects, cultural and ritual manifestations, environmental issues, domestication and rearing, and the world of work.

The conference will be held in India. We are hoping that the conference will be held in Bangalore. We are currently negotiating for conference venues. Our plan is also to hold a pre-conference meeting in London in June 2015, where country reports will be invited and discussed.

A formal Call for Papers for the 2016 conference will be sent out in due course.

This conference builds on previous conferencing activities mobilised by Ed Emery and William Clarence-Smith at the School of Oriental and African Studies [SOAS, University of London] and elsewhere. We have built a "stable" of quadruped conferences, including mules, donkeys, camels, and war horses.

The outcome has been the establishment of vibrant international research networks, with programmes of ongoing work.

[See web-links below.]

We are happy that our research activities will now be extended to include elephant studies - not least because, along with the camel, the elephant features prominently in the coat of arms of our School.

If you think that you might be interested to present a paper, or may wish to register for the conference, do please write to the conference organiser at this address:

[ed.emery@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ed.emery@soas.ac.uk)

With best regards,

William Clarence-Smith [Conference chair]

Ed Emery [Conference organiser]

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Proposals for our upcoming conference should include:

- (1) Title of proposed paper;
- (2) Name of proposer;
- (3) Institutional affiliation, if any;
- (4) an abstract of the [proposed paper [maximum 200 words];
- (5) A brief CV [maximum 100 words].

[*Please note:* The Conference has minimal funding. Regrettably we are not able to offer financial assistance for travel and accommodation expenses.]

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**Weblinks for previous conferences:**

**The Camel Conference @ SOAS**

[www.soas.ac.uk/camelconference2013/](http://www.soas.ac.uk/camelconference2013/)

**The Donkey Conference @ SOAS**

[www.soas.ac.uk/history/conferences/donkey-conference/](http://www.soas.ac.uk/history/conferences/donkey-conference/)

**War Horses of the World**

[www.soas.ac.uk/history/conferences/war-horses-conference-2014/](http://www.soas.ac.uk/history/conferences/war-horses-conference-2014/)