Troubling Translation(s)
University of Pennsylvania
February 21-22, 2020

Friday February 21
[South Asia Seminar Room (551) at Van Pelt library, 3420 Walnut St]

2:30 Opening Remarks

3:00 Islamic Material Translations
Discussant: Prof. Terenjit Sevea (Penn)
Max J. Dugan (Penn)
The Qur’an as Decor: Modern Translations of Islamic Aesthetics
Sadia Shirazi (Cornell)
Translation and Untranslatability in Zarina’s Home is a Foreign Place (1999)

4:15 Coffee & Tea Break

4:30 The Politics of Terminology
Discussant: Prof. Andrew Carruthers (Penn)
Asif Akhtar (NYU)
Digital Siyasat – A Genealogical and Ethnographic Account of Transposition of Mediatized Politics in Contemporary Pakistan
Shuting Zhuang (Chicago)
From “Blue Lotus” to “Blue Poppy”: “Kaozheng” and the Scientific Becoming of an Tibetan Medicinal Plant

6:30 Dinner
Presenters and discussants are invited to a dinner following the reception.
Saturday February 22
[South Asia Seminar Room (551) at Van Pelt library, 3420 Walnut St]

10:15   Breakfast

10:30   Translation in Colonial Algeria: Theology and Bureaucracy
        Discussant: Prof. Greg Goulding (Penn)

        Allison Korinek (NYU)
        False Promises, or, The Untranslatables of Empire in Colonial Algeria

        Alexis Rolando Chavez (UChicago)
        Beyond "Those Truths the Hand Can Touch": Translating Violence,
        Divine Trial (Ibtila), and Rabah Belamri

11:45   Coffee & Tea Break

12:00   Translation Across Colonial Audiences
        Discussant: Prof. Megan Robb (Penn)

        Sumaira Nawaz (McGill)
        Triangulation in Translation: A Report on Muhammad Hassan Khan's
        renditions of Turkish Writings in English into Urdu

1:00    Lunch

2:30    Translation as Contact: Between States and Institutions
        Discussant: Zain Mian (Penn)

        Micah Hughes (UNC Chapel Hill)
        Translating Religion between Subversion and Critique: Islam, Social
        Science, and the University in the Turkish Republic

        Michael Shea (Penn)
        Contesting Hemispheric Historicity: Raúl Zurita and Tendencies in
        Translation

4:00    Coffee & Tea Break with Cheese Reception

4:15    Translation Round Table
        Deanna Cachoian-Schanz (Penn), Yuxin Wen (Vivian) (Penn), and Aron
        Brouwer (Penn) in conversation with Partha P. Chakrabartty (Independent)

6:00    Program ends