



Faculty of History, University of Cambridge



Quantitative History Seminar, Lent Term 2014
Supported by the Centre for History and Economics
and the Trevelyan Fund

Seminars will take place in Room 5, Faculty of History.
Sandwiches and fruit will be available from 12.45 for a 1.p.m. start.
Convenor: Leigh Shaw-Taylor- lmws2@cam.ac.uk

5th May

Dr Erdem Kabadayi, Istanbul Bilgi University

***Occupational Structures of Ottoman Cities in Mid-Nineteenth Century: Regional
Differentiation or Cohesion?***

For this paper occupational titles of entire household heads in 14 cities will be coded into PSTI and compared to each other. The source material of this analysis is an empire wide survey conducted in 1845. This year is relevant to assess the effects of industrialization on the occupational structures of major Ottoman urban economies in a comparative context. It falls in the immediate aftermath of the game changing international free trade agreements of the Ottoman Empire first with Britain and then with other European countries. Moreover, it is also close to the benchmark UK 1851 census.

19th May

Dr Alexis Litvine, University of Cambridge

***French occupational structure and labour productivity: what can new estimates tell us
about the pace and nature of French industrialisation?***

This paper will use new data on labour force to discuss the evolution of French apparent labour productivity since the end of the C18th. It shows that revisionist historians (Cameron, O'Brien and Keyder) were far too optimistic regarding C19th French industrial performance, but that subsequent counter-revisionists accounts failed to acknowledge the essential structural transformation that defined the French model of development before WW1. Thus, this new evidences partially confirm Crafts' assessment of France's modest but not inconsiderable economic performance in the nineteenth century, though they significantly revise downward French industrial productivity throughout the period. The paper also analyses the productivity gap between the two countries suggesting that whereas French industry mostly followed British achievements (emulation), the key difference between the two countries was in the structure of agricultural production. The combination of labour-intensive agricultural production and low concentration of industrial waged labour (generalised by-employment) made possible by the unique distribution of landownership was the keystone of French economic development before the war.

2nd June

Dr Natalia Mora-Sitja, University of Cambridge

***Female employment, occupational structure, and industrialisation in
comparative perspective***

Facilitated by the creation of new datasets under the INCHOS project, and using consistent labour force definitions and the same PST classification scheme, this paper will explore and compare the evolution of female employment in several economies since the nineteenth century. By examining in a comparative perspective the evolution of female labour force participation rates over industrialisation, and the impact of sectoral changes on female employment, this session will offer an analysis of the relationship between women's work characteristics and economic growth.