

# IPOR presents documentary film on Brazilian Indigenous people

**T**HE Portuguese Orient Institute (IPOR) will today hold a premiere for a new documentary film at 6 p.m. The film, with English subtitles, is based on the book "The Potiguara Indigenous People: Memory, Asylum and Power," written by Portuguese author José Manuel Simões. A revised version of the book, which tells the story of the indigenous inhabitants of Baía da Traição (Brazil), will also be launched.

The book is based on Simões' in depth research conducted in the field, which became his PhD thesis. The Potiguara Indigenous Reservation, located in Brazil, is usually not receptive to visitors from outside the community. However, the author was able to engage with the members of the reservation and gathered stories, adventures and cultural knowledge. Following several interesting encounters during his visit, he decided to focus his thesis on this topic, and to produce a documentary film that could help



him tell the story of this indigenous community.

According to its synopsis, "The Potiguara Indigenous People: Memory, Asylum and Power" encompasses multiple fields of study, ranging from history, cultural anthropology and communication theory.

The documentary film, "Asylum – The Power of Potiguara Indigenous People" reflects upon the unique wor-

ld of approximately 5,000 Indians residing on a natural and biological reservation, which is located in the north of Paraíba, Brazil, and is made up of 32 villages. "By monitoring and reflecting upon a community that has opened itself to the outside world, whilst still maintaining traces and narratives from ancestral cultural representations, this documentary film showcases one of the last human paradises," said IPOR in a statement.

José Manuel Simões was born in Coimbra, Portugal, and holds a PhD in Global Studies from the University of St. Joseph in Macau. He also holds a Masters in Communication and Journalism from the University of Coimbra. He has worked as a journalist in Portugal and Macau and most recently lectured at the University of St. Joseph.

Simões and the director of IPOR, João Laurentino Neves, will jointly present the book and the documentary film at the premiere. **Staff reporter**

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