

Empire and Aftermath:

New Perspectives on the Legacies of the Japanese Empire

Friday, June 19, 2015

Sophia University, Building 10, Room 301

This interdisciplinary symposium brings together scholars from the fields of Sociology, Anthropology, History and Political Science whose research focuses on the Japanese empire and its aftermath in Asia. Existing studies of postcolonialism and decolonization processes tend to exclusively explore the dissolution of European empires, with an emphasis on nations in the Global South. A major goal of this symposium is to expand the field of postcolonial studies to include East Asia as a central point of inquiry and comparison. This one-day symposium, to be held at Sophia University in Tokyo, will feature scholars working on such diverse topics as the developmental legacies of Japanese imperialism in China, the reassertion of Chinese and Taiwanese identities after 1945, the possibilities of cosmopolitanism under colonial hegemony, the role of the human sciences in claiming post-imperial space, and post-imperial reckoning and legal space.

The event is open and no registration is required.

PROGRAM

10:45-11:00 Welcoming Remarks

11:00-12:30 Session 1:

Colonial Legacies in Taiwan

Chair: Linda Grove (Professor Emerita, Sophia University)

"Colonial Legacies and the Reassertion of Taiwanese Consciousness under Chinese Rule"

Evan Dawley, Goucher College

"Changing Perceptions of Colonial Architecture in Taipei"

Charles D. Musgrove, St. Mary's College of Maryland

12:30-1:45 Lunch Break

1:45-3:15 Session 2:

Post-imperial Space

Chair: Mark Caprio, (Professor, Rikkyo University)

"Comprehensive and Cooperative: Human Scientists in Early Postwar Japan"

Miriam Kingsberg, University of Colorado

"Law's Imperial Amnesia: The Unmaking of Empire and the Post-imperial Legal Space in East Asia"

Yukiko Koga, Hunter College

3:15-3:30 Coffee Break

3:30-5:30: Session 3:

Cosmopolitanism, Internationalism and Development

Chair: James Farrer (Professor, Sophia University)

"Empire, Industry and War: Rebuilding the China-Japan relationship, 1949-1972"

Amy King, The Australian National University

"City between Empire and Nation: Local Experiences of Decolonization in Postwar Dairen, 1945-1955"

Christian Hess, Sophia University

"Cosmopolitan Dream, Colonial Hegemony: The Manchurian Motion Picture Corporation and the Production of My Nightingale (1943)"

Seio Nakajima, Waseda University

5:30-5:45: Closing Remarks