Comparative Asian Research Network

Monthly Lecture Series on Issues and Research in the Asian Region Organized by the Department of Japanese Studies, CUHK

Japan's World Heritage Controversies: Domestic Discontent and International Tension

SPEAKER: DR. TIMOTHY Y. TSU

KWANSEI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY, JAPAN

Date: 27 February, 2015. (Friday)

Time: 15:00-16:30

Venue: Leung Kau Kui Building,

Room 401

Language: English

All are Welcome!!

Abstract:

The world heritage movement, which many justifiably considered a good thing in general, has caused discontent and conflict in domestic and international contexts around the world. In Japan, domestic controversies have erupted over the selection and management of world heritage sites to highlight the kinds of forces critical of and even opposed to world heritage inscription. There have been recent Japanese attempts to gain world heritage recognition for particular sites and cultural practices contributing to international tension between Japan on the one hand and Korea and China on the other. What are the contradictions in contemporary Japanese society as seen through world heritage controversies? What is the concept and practice of world heritage in general?

Co-Sponsored by the Global Studies Programme