The Update

A bi-weekly roundup of news in the Department of Asian Studies for our Students, Faculty and Staff

2017 Asian Studies Annual Careers Night

The Department of Asian Studies is pleased to invite you to our Annual Asian Studies Careers Night on Wednesday, February 15th. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain advice and network with people who have found exciting careers after an Asian Studies degree. We will be inviting alumni with diverse experiences – at home and in Asia – to come share their inspiring stories with you.

Wednesday, February 15th, 2017
6:00 PM
Auditorium, Asian Centre, 1871 West Mall
Free – Registration required

Event Program

6:15pm – Keynote: Diplomacy from the Ground Up
With speaker Joseph Caron, Previous Canadian Ambassador to China, Japan and India.

6:30pm – Panel: Living & Working in Asia: How is it Done?
Our panelists comprise a diverse group of Asian Studies alumni who have had successful careers in Asia. They will discuss how they first started working abroad, what it was like to live and work in Asia and the skills that will help students find opportunities outside of Canada or in Canada-Asia relations.

7:15pm – Networking: Ask me Anything
Students will break into groups and rotate among the alumni. Many of our attending alumni graduated after 2010 so this is a great opportunity to ask questions like how they entered the workforce and how they have navigated through the "real world".

See the full event program and our growing list of alumni speakers >>
Summer Course Schedule Now Online!

Summer courses have now been posted on the SSC. In addition to some of our most popular courses, like History of Chinese Cinema, Introduction to Japanese Cinema and Korean Popular Music in Context, we will also be offering beginner language classes for Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Cantonese.

View all courses Asian Studies is offering this summer >>

What Does it Mean to “Abolish” a Language? – Some Thoughts on Mori Arinori and Shiga Naoya

With Speaker Dr. Christina Yi, (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian Studies).

Part of the Centre for Japanese Research Lunchtime Lecture Series.

With the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War in 1894, Japan officially embarked on an enterprise of territorial expansion. Acquisition of Taiwan occurred in 1895, soon followed by the annexation of Korea in 1910. The unconditional surrender of Japan to the Allied Powers in 1945 signaled not only the end of the Pacific War but also the end of the Japanese empire, as one of the conditions of surrender was the redrawing of national borders. The Allied Occupation of Japan (1945-1952) that followed introduced changes not only in the political arena, but also in the ways "Japan" and "the Japanese" themselves were defined and discussed. This talk illuminates some of these postwar changes - as well as prewar continuities - by examining the history of Japanese linguistic nationalism and language ideology. In particular, it will look at the writings of Mori Arinori (1847-1889) and Shiga Naoya (1883-1971), two prominent intellectuals who each proposed radical - though quite different - changes to the language use in Japan.

Wednesday, February 8th, 2017
12:30pm - 1:30pm
Asian Centre 604

Details >>

Fewer Left Behind: Documentary screening, Photo Exhibit, and Panel Discussion

A volunteer-based group of young women concerned about the social phenomenon of left-behind children in China will be hosting a free event at the Asian Centre (UBC). The event will screen documentaries and photography by a few award-winning artists, followed by a panel discussion on left-behind children by experts in international relations, Chinese studies, child development, etc. This event aims to raise awareness on this issue in North America and to generate more dialogue and solutions on the issue. The global social and economic impact of this issue will also be explored.
Wednesday, February 8th, 2017
6pm - 8:30pm
Asian Centre, 1871 West Mall

Mending Cracks: Trauma and Art Production

Talk and Video Screening by Raghavendra Rao K.V., Artist & Research Associate, CISAR on his current exhibition of mixed media works in the Asian Centre lobby. This exhibition will be on display until March 3rd, 2017. The talk and video are part of the Visual and Material Culture Seminar Series.
Thursday, February 9th, 2017
Mending Cracks: Trauma and Art Production
4pm - 5pm
MOA, Room 213

Liturgy, Icon, and Text in the Development of Esoteric Buddhism

Visualization is commonly regarded as the *sine qua non* of tantric Buddhist practice, and scholars have sought to trace the relationship between visualization and the use of images in the evolution of tantric or esoteric Buddhist ritual. Guest speaker Charles D. Orzech explores these ideas in his talk here at the Asian Centre.
Thursday, February 9th, 2017
Liturgy, Icon, and Text in the Development of Esoteric Buddhism
4pm
Asian Studies, Room 604

Colloquium on Religion, Literature and the Arts

Hosted by Dr. Anne Murphy, this colloquium will feature different speakers every other week throughout Term 2. Students who wish to present in March can submit a paper title, 250 word abstract, and contact information to anne.murphy@ubc.ca by Feb 1st, 2017.

Photo by Martin Dee

Tuesday, February 14th, 2017
Religious Studies in the Era of Big Data: Large-Scale Text Analysis and Database Approaches
With Dr. Edward Slingerland
12:30pm - 2pm
Room 604, Asian Centre, 1871 West Mall

Tuesday, February 28th, 2017
Old Stories in New Forms: Mapping a Medieval Japanese Buddhist Purgatory onto a Modern Urban Ghetto
With Dr. Jessica Main
12:30pm - 2pm
Room 604, Asian Centre, 1871 West Mall
Culture Exchange in Eighteenth-Century India: Poetry and Paintings from Kishangarh
Heidi Rika Maria Pauwels

Dr. Pauwels will present material from her recent book, which traces the hybrid intellectual culture of eighteenth-century late-Mughal India, tracing the circulation of poetic and art styles between cosmopolitan Delhi and provincial centres through a case study of the Rajput principality of Kishangarh, which is famous for its paintings, but was also an important literary centre. Highlighted are the works of Savant Singh (1699–1764), alias Nagaridas, who was a prolific poet in Old Hindi and commissioned Kishangarhi paintings to illustrate his own devotional poetry to Krishna. Dr. Pauwels is a Professor in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature at the University of Washington.

Friday, February 17th, 2017
3pm - 5pm
Room 604, Asian Centre, 1871 West Mall

Korean Studies Visiting Scholar Seminar with Professor Heejung Kang (Sogang University)

“조선전기 불교미술의 후원자들 (Patrons of Buddhist Art in Early Joseon)”
“유교국가 조선의 불교미술 르네상스 (Buddhist Art Renaissance in 17th-century Confucian Joseon)”

Thursday, February 23rd, 2017
Speaker: Professor Heejung Kang (Sogang University)
3pm - 6pm
Room 604, Asian Centre

Open to the public. All are welcome.
Language: Korean (한국어)
2017 One Asia Forum/Korean Studies Lab Conference:
The Imjin War in Premodern East Asia and its Aftermath

March 10th - 11th, 2017
8:15am - 4:00pm
Westpoint Room, University Golf Club, 5185 W 10th Avenue

Language: Korean and Japanese
Free to attend but registration required by February 25: Please send your RSVP to Jiyoung Suh: jiyoung.suh@alumni.ubc.ca

See the event program and more details>>

Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference 2017

This day-long conference will be held on Saturday, March 11th, 2017 at the Asian Centre Auditorium on the University of British Columbia – Vancouver’s main campus. Over the course of the day, participants in the conference will present original research, receive feedback on their papers or presentations, and hear other scholars present their own work.

For all inquiries, contact gradcon2017@gmail.com

Saturday, March 11th, 2017
9am-4:30pm
Asian Centre Auditorium

Details>>

The Shikoku Pilgrimage: Its History, Culture and Traditions

As part of the One Asia Forum talks hosted by Dr. Nam-lin Hur, Professor Moreton will present some tales about cures and punishments that, in some cases, have been overlooked yet strongly influenced the faith of the local people in the past. Guest speaker David C. Moreton is
an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Tokushima. He graduated from the Department of Asian Studies, UBC (BA, 1995; MA, 2001).

Monday, March 13th, 2017  
3-5pm  
Room 604, Asian Centre

**2017 Wat Lecture: Living the Cultural Revolution—Impact Events and the Making of Cultural Memory**

Why is it that for a while in the early 2000s, Mao’s portrait dangled in almost every taxi? Why is it that Mao’s image is to be found everywhere today, in high-market as well as popular accessories? Why do numerous Chinese websites feature memories of producing and consuming Maoist propaganda art? In addressing these questions, Barbara Mittler will argue that the Cultural Revolution was an "impact event" that touched not only those who have written about it—intellectuals, the well-off, the middle class—but everyone down to peasants and workers. The Cultural Revolution was there for—or against—everyone.

Guest speaker Prof. Dr. Barbara Mittler is Professor of Chinese Studies at the Institute of Chinese Studies at the University of Heidelberg and Director of the Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies—Asia and Europe in a Global Context.

Wednesday, March 15th, 2017  
6:00pm Reception  
7:00pm Lecture  
Auditorium, Asian Centre, 1871 West Mall  
Free and open to the public – registration required

**Artona Photo Session for Graduating Students in Asian Studies**

It’s your last chance to book your graduation photos!

- Book online at: [https://artona.com/schools/UBC-ASIA/programs/graduation](https://artona.com/schools/UBC-ASIA/programs/graduation)
- Dates: Now- February 18, 2017

Questions? Contact Artona at csr@artonagroup.com.

**Professor Leo K. Shin interviewed by the Sing Tao Daily**
This past term, Professor Leo K. Shin taught ASIA 373, a course that explores the history, culture, and identities of Hong Kong from the port’s pre-colonial settings in the early nineteenth century to its post-colonial contexts. Professor Shin was recently interviewed by the Sing Tao Daily about the course. Read the full article [here](https://secure.campaigner.com/csb/Public/show/emzv9--bnjkj-5l47ul849/20).

### Raymond Pai to Make Canadian Stage Debut

Did you know that, aside from being an excellent Cantonese language instructor, [Raymond Pai](https://secure.campaigner.com/csb/Public/show/emzv9--bnjkj-5l47ul849/20) has been professionally trained as a singer and for the past few years has been doing musical theater? On February 7th through to the 11th, Raymond Pai will be making his Canadian stage debut for a local production of Ragtime in Concert by the Fighting Chance Production.

### Photos: 2017 Lunar New Year Celebration

On January 27th, the Department of Asian Studies hosted its annual Lunar New Year Celebration. Performances featured a lion dance, songs and dances from students in our Mandarin, Cantonese and Korean programs and a series of guest performances from the UBC community, local community, and one celebrity from Beijing. After lunch, the auditorium was turned into a lively fair filled with various activities and challenges that celebrated Chinese and Korean cultures. The Department of Asian Studies would like to thank all the amazing students and instructors that volunteered and helped make this such a spectacular event.
Visit here for the full gallery of photos and event details>>

Student Opportunities

Paid Communications Internship at First Steps. First Steps is a Christian organization committed to preventing child malnutrition in North Korea through programs that provide essential nutrients to young children. Think you’d be a good fit? Please click here to see the job description.

The deadline for 2017 BC Japanese Speech Contest is Monday, February 6, 2017 at 5pm.

The Heritage of Chinese Migration GoGlobal application is still open. This GoGlobal counts for HIST 482 or ASTU 400 (3 credits). The application is open until February 12th, 2017.

Intensive Chinese in Taiwan, Taipei Go Global application is still open. This GoGlobal counts for CHIN 231 CHIN 233. Apply by February 12th, 2017.

APF Canada Seeks Students, Young Professionals for Asia Pacific Youth Council. Apply by February 20th.

Anamesa, a graduate students’ journal based at New York University, is pleased to send out the new Call for Submissions for our Spring 2017 issue. This issue's theme is Subversion. The submission deadline is February 26, 2017.

Study Abroad in Japan: Summer Program at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU). The Gateway Program offers intensive Japanese language courses from beginner to intermediate level. Apply by March 1st., 2017.

The Asian Conference on Education & International Development 2017 theme is "Educat**:ing for Change." Call for Papers deadline is from Sunday, March 26 to Wednesday, March 29 2017.

For September 2017, the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies at the University of Victoria, Canada, welcomes applications for postgraduate students to work on the themes and subjects listed here. Apply soon!
On-Campus Events

Tuesday, February 7th, 2017
How Much Difference is There Between Japan and China in Terms of Aesthetics?
12:30pm - 2:00pm
Room 120, C.K. Choi Building

Wednesday, February 8th, 2017
"How do we be together?"
6pm - 9pm
Sty-Wet-Tan Great Hall, UBC First Nations Longhouse

Friday, February 10th, 2017
Tet Culture Show
5:30pm - 9:00pm
AMS Student Nest

Wednesday, February 15th, 2017
Genealogy of three Principles of the Constitution of Japan: Sovereignty of the people, Fundamental Human Rights, and Pacifism
12:30pm - 2pm
Room 120, C.K. Choi Building

Thursday, February 16th, 2017
How Can the New Governments in Washington and Seoul Tackle North Korea?
11:30am - 3pm
Room 120, C.K. Choi Building

Friday, February 17th, 2017
Japan's Vision for the East Asian Security Border
2pm- 4pm
Room 120, C.K. Choi Building

Wednesday, March 1st, 2017
The Rise of the Anti-Establishment: Where do we go from here? With Robert Reich
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Old Auditorium, 6344 Memorial Road V6T 1Z2

Off-Campus Events

Jan 23rd - Feb 28th, 2017
The Antiques of the Qianlong Period - A Poly Art Gallery Showcase
Hours vary depending on the day
#100 - 905 West Pender, Vancouver, BC

February 4th - April 30th, 2017
Rock, Paper, Scissors exhibition by Cindy Mochizuki
12pm - 3pm
Nikkei National Museum, 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby

Saturday, February 11th, 2017
Japanese Book Sale
10am - 4pm
Nikkei National Museum, 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby

Sunday, February 12th, 2017
BC Studies Special Issue Launch: Nikkei History
2pm - 4pm
Nikkei National Museum, 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby

Sunday, February 26th, 2017
Japanese Canadian Vegetables & Flowers Block Printmaking
12pm - 4pm
Nikkei National Museum, 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby

Ongoing to March 31st, 2017
Exhibition - Hong Kong: Heroes of the Dark Years
Asian Studies Graduate Student Writes Poem Dedicated to Victims of Recent Quebec Shooting

This poem is an example of a ‘shikwa’, which is a genre of Urdu and Persian poetry, expressing a complaint to God.

Gurinder Mann’s poem is dedicated to the victims of the recent shooting at the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec in Quebec City, and was read at the vigil held on Tuesday, January 31st, 2017 at the Nest.
Why Such Barbarity?

In your peaceful ocean, why is there a wild current?
Oh Lord, on your earth, why such barbarity?

At the time of sunset, the sound of gunpowder was heard
From the place, where ‘namaz’[1] is read
The echo was heard, at the path to Mecca
The cries of mothers, in God’s court
The unarmed innocent, thrown on the river bank of death
Why is it so costly to see you?

Oh Lord, on your earth, why such barbarity?

What was their fault? What sin was committed?
They had come, to be in your shelter
Was their sin that they were Muslim?
Or, that they read the Koran?
In the shadow of this beautiful life
Why is there the business of death?

Oh Lord, on your earth, why such barbarity?

Pain is patrolling humanity, from all directions
On the beautiful face of truth, deceit has tied the ‘sehra’[2]
Today man is thirsty for man’s blood
The earth is weeping, the devil is laughing
Humanity is sitting crying
Why is there a sword hanging above it?

Oh Lord, on your earth, why such barbarity?
Hatred is gripping the universe
The creed of humanity is bearing its threat
Bridges are breaking, walls are standing
In the wild climate, thousands wander
Why are they all ready to shed the blood of others?

Oh Lord, on your earth, why such barbarity?

Bulleh’s[3] soul is crying in the grave
Waris[4] hangs his head, hearing this news
Mirza[5] is breaking his arrows
Ranjha[6] is urging the ‘Panj Pirs’[7]
Sassi[8] is shouting in the desert
Why is cruelty obedient to fate?

Oh Lord, on your earth, why such barbarity?

The ones who went to pray to you
Are swimming in oceans of blood
Why is your sky quiet?
When the world is in rage
Gurinder Mann is asking you
Why is your world in ruin?

Oh Lord, on your earth, why such barbarity?

Gurinderpal (Gurinder) Mann

Footnotes
[1] Formal prayer in Islam
[2] Headdress worn by the groom, which covers the face
[5] The male protagonist from the Punjabi folktale ‘Mirza Sahibaan’
[6] The male protagonist from the Punjabi folktale ‘Hir Ranjha’
[7] The five great saints, referred to in Punjabi literature
[8] The female protagonist from the Punjabi folktale ‘Sassi Punnu’

We Welcome your Submissions

If you have a story that you would like featured in our biweekly update please submit your story here and it could be featured in the next Update!

Missed an Update?

All past newsletters may be found here.

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