



Tübingen Korean Studies Lecture Series

in cooperation with the King Sejong Institute Tübingen

Online via Zoom
Meeting ID: 985 1558 0335
Passcode: 099331



Dr. Dennis Würthner (Ruhr-University Bochum)

Literature, Friendship and the Question of Dissent after the Military Coup of 1170: The Case of Misu Yi Illo 眉叟 李仁老 and Kiji Im Ch'un 肇之 林椿

May 12, 2021 (Wednesday), 18:00 c.t.

Abstract:

The military revolt of the year 1170 not only constituted a caesura in the history of the Koryō dynasty (918-1392), but it also marked a decisive turning-point in the lives of many literati and civil-officials of the era. While some intellectuals met disaster and were continuously marginalized, others subsequently thrived, pursuing illustrious official careers in the decades that followed. In this talk I will focus on two prominent young figures of the age: Misu Yi Illo and Kiji Im Ch'un, two friends of similar backgrounds whose lives in the post-coup era developed in dramatically different directions. On the basis of selected extant writings, particularly from *P'ahan chip* and *Sōha chip*, I mean to discuss the two scholar's relationship to each other, the way they viewed their lives and times, as well as the questions as to how they positioned themselves vis-à-vis the prevailing system(s) of military rule and how their writings and collections may be read as literature of dissent.

Dennis Würthner

Dr. Dennis Wuerthner is a researcher and lecturer at the Korean Studies Institute of Ruhr University Bochum. He studies and translates premodern and contemporary Korean literature. His recent publications comprise *Tales of the Strange by a Korean Confucian Monk: Kūmo sinhwa by Kim Sisüp* and “A Fusion of Dreams, a Crossing of Borders: On Ch'oe Inhun's Transformations of Korean Classical Literature”. From September 2021 on, he will serve as Assistant Professor of East Asian Literatures in the Department of World Languages and Literatures at Boston University.