



Tübingen Korean Studies Lecture Series

# Frontlines of Social Science Research on Korea

## *Dark Heritage in Korea-Japan Relations*

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Wednesday February 8, 2023, 18:00 c.t.,

Wilhelmstraße 133, Room 30



### Abstract

This talk introduces the ongoing tension associated with history problems in Japan-Korea relations by bringing the Japanese dark heritage into focus. The dissonant nature of dark cultural heritage has gained greater attention since the late 1990s in Japan and around the world, though scholarship has been largely limited to the European context. While examining the Japanese making of dark heritage, the talk will first reconstruct the process by which specific sites of past violence are transformed into war heritage in Japan. Second, it will explore the political and social roles of dark heritage between Japan and Korea. These two themes will be demonstrated through an examination of civic activities to conserve remains of underground facilities built during World War II in Nagano and Osaka, Japan.

### Bio

Dr. Han, Jung-Sun is a professor at the College of International Studies, Korea University. Majoring in modern and contemporary Japanese history, Han has worked on the interwar and wartime Japanese political thoughts and the Japan-Korea relationship. Han's books include *An Imperial Path to Modernity: Yoshino Sakuzo and a New Liberal Order in East Asia, 1905-1937* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2013) and *Drawing an Empire: Japanese Cartoon Journalism and Colonization of Korea* (일본, 만화로 제국을 그리다, co-authored, 서울: 일조각, 2006). The latter book, *Drawing an Empire*, has won the best academic book prize in Korea and has been translated into Japanese (漫畫に描かれた日本帝國, 東京: 明石書店, 2010). Most recently, Han has co-edited *Risk Management in East Asia: Systems and Frontier Issues* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2021) with colleagues in Fudan and Kobe Universities. Currently, Han is revising a book-length manuscript on Japanese civic activities to conserve dark heritage for publication.

