



The Department of Anthropology
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presents a seminar

by

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on

Radioactive Citizens: Re-assembling Life in Post- Fukushima Japan

Friday, 16 March 2018

1:00 – 2:30 pm

Room 115 Humanities Building

New Asia College, CUHK

A light lunch will be served at 12:30 pm. First come first served.

In March 2011, the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster caused the displacement of more than 100,000 Japanese citizens. Nuclear fallout contaminated litate village with its entire population evacuated until 2017, when the Japanese state pronounced that villagers are “safe” to return after decontamination of risky yet imperceptible radionuclides was completed. In this talk, I trace how the state has deployed technologies of decontamination to shape a new environmental governance, turning farmland into barren land and storage ground for decontamination waste. Within this radioactive landscape in which techno-scientific enquiries and political responsibilities are made and negotiated, my ethnography focuses on a group of villagers, scientists and citizens who experiment with new ways of agriculture and energy generation to make life possible in an altered ecology, and how this life becomes simultaneously a critique of the disaster.

Man-kei Tam is a PhD candidate in anthropology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOME