

Special Agent or Liason? Saburō Yasumura and the International Relief Committee in the Wake of the Nanjing Massacre

Date: January 29th, 2015 (Thursday)

Time: 15:00 - 16:30

Venue: Cheng Yu Tung Building Room 211

Language : English

SPEAKER: Rev. Dr. Yosuke Matsutani (松谷曄介)

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This lecture deals with Saburō Yasumura, a Christian pastor and the only Japanese member of the International Relief Committee (the former Safety Zone Committee) in the wake of the Nanjing Massacre. This fact is surprisingly unknown and Yasumura has been underexplored in academic research. But there are many reasons to take a more detailed look at this Christian pastor. Fluent in English, Yasumura was selected by the Japanese Foreign Ministry and Army Ministry to serve as a negotiator with the foreign missionaries on the committee. Was he a special agent, a collaborator with the invading Imperial Japanese Army? Or was

he a liaison, someone who served as a buffer between the committee and the Japanese army?

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No registration necessary

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