



About this Series

It provides both established and early-career researchers with an opportunity to present their on-going research concerning transimperial history.

Title

Competition and the exceptionalist politics of comparison: Atrocity narratives on India and Korea in the emergence of Anglo-Japanese colonial rivalry

Date

Tuesday, 29 July 2025

17:00 (JST), 8:00 (GMT)

Venue

SK201, Karasuma Campus, Doshisha University
Zoom (on-line hybrid): scan the QR code below
(No registration required)

Description

This paper draws on one of the chapters of my monograph, *Transimperial Trajectories: Colonialism and Anticolonialism in the British and Japanese Empires* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming). The chapter in question deals with how imperialists from different empires in interaction compared one another's colonialism in an emerging relationship of rivalry. As a case study, this paper discusses how British and Japanese imperialists engaged in what may be called the 'exceptionalist politics of comparison', criticising one another over colonial atrocities that took place in India and Korea, whilst defending one's own empire as 'humane', 'benevolent' and 'moral'. The paper demonstrates why and how such politics of comparison, both British and Japanese, inevitably suffered from contradictions with ironic consequences.

Presenter

Satoshi Mizutan is Professor at the Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, Doshisha University (Kyoto, Japan). Along with Nadin Heé and Daniel Hedinger, he is one of the founding directors of CTH (Center for Transimperial History).



Satoshi Mizutan

