Politics of Nostalgia
Populism, Branding and Nation-State

Date : October 12, 2019
Time: 10:20～17:00
Venue : Kanazawa Chamber of Commerce and Industry
(9-13 Oyamamachi, Kanazawa, Ishikawa, Japan)
2nd floor, Seminar Room 1
Admission free. All are welcome.

In the surge of populist movements in Europe and the US, the use of myths and historical memory is rampant. Nostalgia, a sentimental feeling and yearning for a return to the past, is a powerful tool to redefine who we are and where we come from. This symposium brings together a diverse group of scholars from Singapore, China, South Korea, and Japan to explore how nostalgia is used in different social and political contexts, and more specifically, how various actors aim to develop and use a shared nostalgic sentiment among the people, and what kind of problems and opportunities will arise in this process.

Invited speakers:
Thomas David Dubois (Fudan University)
Chris McMorran (National University of Singapore)
E.J.R. Cho (Institute for National Security Strategy, Korea)
Toru Yoshida (Hokkaido University)
Rob Eskildsen (International Christian University)

Organizer: Research group on “Anxiety and Hope in the Age of Globalization,” Kanazawa University College of Human and Social Sciences
Inquiry: Prof. Nakano (rnakano@staff.kanazawa-u.ac.jp)

Kanazawa Chamber of Commerce is located near Minami-cho/Oyama-jinja bus stop, which can be reached in about 10 minutes and for 200 yen by frequently departing buses from Kanazawa Station.
10:00- Registration

10:20-10:30 Opening remark by Ryoko Nakano (Professor, Kanazawa University)

10:30-11:45 Session 1: Environment/Tourism

Wilderness and Satoyama: Politics of National Landscape
Masami Yuki (Professor, Kanazawa University)

Tourism: Globalization’s Poison Pill
Chris McMorran (Associate Professor, National University of Singapore)
Moderator: Timo Thelen (Associate Professor, Kanazawa University)

11:50-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:50 Session 2: Heritage and Food Branding

“China’s Famous Hundred Year Old Brand” — State Sponsored Nostalgia in China’s Food Retail Market
Thomas David DuBois (Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Fudan University)

Shumai: Problems of National Identity and Branding a Local Product in Yokohama, Japan
Rob Eskildsen (Professor, International Christian University)

Rebuilding Global Japan in the Shadow of Meiji: Industrial Heritage Branding
Ryoko Nakano (Professor, Kanazawa University)
Moderator: Tatsuya Koizumi (Associate Professor, Kanazawa University)

14:50-15:00 Break

15:00-16:50 Session 3: Nationalist Populism

Teageukibudaе: Collective Nostalgia for the Forbidden
E.J.R. Cho (Research Fellow, Institute for National Security Strategy, Korea)

The Glorious Past and Decline of Britain: Margaret Thatcher and British Foreign Policy in the 1980s
Yoshitaka Okamoto (Associate Professor, Kanazawa University)

Populism in the Age of Nostalgia: Is It Feasible to the Future?
Toru Yoshida (Professor, Hokkaido University)
Moderator: Ryoko Nakano (Professor, Kanazawa University)

16:50-17:00 Closing remark by Yoshinari Yamaguchi (Associate Professor, Kanazawa University)

(The title of each individual presentation is provisional)