<Tobunken/ASNET Seminar> Chinese, Korean, and Japanese Identity in 16th Century

a Korean diarist's view of Hideyoshi's invasion

A poor member of the privileged Yangban class in Chosŏn Korea at the end of the sixteenth century, Oh Hŭimun had left his family to travel south when suddenly rumours arrived of a Japanese invasion. As panic swept the country, Oh struggles to find safety and to reconnect with his loved ones. A casual travel diary became a daily record of nine years as a refugee, as Japanese and then Chinese armies, local bandits, plagues, and starvation ravaged the country.



Diary of Oh Hŭimun (1539-1613)

This paper looks at how this man understood what is now called the Imjin War: the first great international war in East Asia. Through his account of his daily life, we see, for example, how his social connections gave him access to information, how he reacted to the arrival of foreigners, and how he viewed the interactions of the court, officials, and commoners.

Date : June 27 (Thu), 17:00-18:00

Speaker: J. Marshall Craig (Visiting Fellow/ Oxford University)

Venue : Ground floor, Tobunken

Fee : Free

Contact : Tel 03-5841-5868 E-mail asnet@asnet.u-tokyo.ac.jp

Tobunken/ASNET Seminar

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