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記憶のコンフリクト
―ベトナムにおける過去の表象―

Conflicts of Memory: Representations of the Past in Vietnam

講師：Martin Grossheim（東京外国語大学・客員准教授）

日時：2011年7月4日（月）16:30～18:30

会場：大阪大学大学院人間科学研究科（吹田キャンパス）
東館3階303講義室（参加無料）※英語講演、通訳なし

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Martin Grossheim, currently Visiting Associate Professor at the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. He obtained his doctoral degree and the professor’s degree in the field of “Southeast Asian Studies” at Passau University/Germany. His expertise is in modern Vietnamese history. His current research focuses on the role of history in contemporary Vietnam and the issue of history and memory. One central theme of his research is how the Vietnamese Communist Party tries to make use of the Ho Chi Minh cult and the so-called Ho Chi Minh ideology to legitimize its leadership and to fill the ideological void created by the demise of socialism in Eastern Europe.

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Conflicts of Memory: Representations of the Past in Vietnam

Martin Grossheim

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Abstract

History writing in Vietnam is highly political. Already in the pre-colonial period “authentic history” written by commissioned historians was a means by which Vietnamese rulers sought to establish legitimacy. After attaining independence from French colonial rule Marxist historians wrote a “new history” of Vietnam that echoed this didactic and teleological feature of Vietnamese historiography. In the new “authentic history” the Communist Party is presented as the legitimate inheritor of the Vietnamese patriotic tradition and the dominant force in the recent history of the country.

A few years after the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 the first historiographical cracks appeared when novelists and filmmakers did not adhere to the socialist realism model anymore and focussed on the grim consequences of the war instead of depicting it as an arduous, but heroic and ultimately triumphant struggle under the leadership of the Party. The diversification of memories in Vietnam intensified when in the late 1980s the leadership in Hanoi launched economic reforms and an open-door policy.

By examining some test-cases such as the historical representation of the war against the French and the United States and dark spots in the history of the Communist Party of Vietnam the paper will show that while in present-day Vietnam there is much more free space to re-commemorate sensitive issues the Vietnam state still basically adhere to the orthodox master narrative and avoids historical topics that might be damaging to the Party’s self-image as the legitimate ruler of the Vietnamese people.

Martin Grossheim’s publications include:


*Die Partei und der Krieg: Debatten und Dissens in Nordvietnam (The Party and the War: Debates and Dissent in North Vietnam)* (Berlin: Regiospectra Publisher, 2009)