



THE POLITICS OF CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN CHINA: THE SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE

Date: 17th April 2015 (Friday)

Time: 16:00-17:15

Venue: E21-1031, Humanities and Social Sciences Building

Language: English

Prof. Sonny Lo Shiu-Hing

Head and Professor

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Prof. Lo formerly worked at the University of Waterloo, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Murdoch University, Lingnan College, and University of East Asia.

This talk will be based on Prof. Lo's new book that analyzes the ways in which the Chinese government and military responded to the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake in Sichuan province. It adopts a comparative and historical perspective in studying the responses of the Chinese government in the first critical 72 hours, the mobilization of the People's Liberation Army and the difficulties encountered, the assertive and important role of the non-governmental groups which established a partnership with the state in the rescue operations, and the process and politics of reconstruction. The book is rich in materials, including comparative case studies of the Tangshan earthquake in 1976, the outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in 2003, the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, the cyclone in Myanmar, and the contrasts with the Japanese earthquake/tsunami in 2011. Researchers, government officials, policy analysts, seismic specialists, journalists and students will find this book extremely useful, conceptually insightful and practically policy-relevant.