



May God Bless Manchukuo The Crisis of Catholic Diplomacy in Northeast Asia



Dr. Thomas DuBois
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**21 Apr. 2016 (Thurs), 4:30 p.m.
7.58 Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus**

During the early twentieth century, the Catholic Church in Asia was sharply divided between national missions and the Vatican. Separating the two were important questions of doctrine and, more fundamentally, of authority. The struggle between the factions evolved as the Catholic Church adapted to political changes in China and Japan. It was brought to a head by the 1932 formation of Manchukuo, but long outlasted the state itself, presaging changes both to the Catholic world and to the diplomatic personality of organized religion in the postwar order.

Thomas DuBois is a graduate of UCLA and is currently Senior Research Fellow in Chinese History at the Australian National University. He has published extensively on the religious life of rural China and on religion in the political transformation of Asia, as well as on the legal, medical, and social history of the Chinese Northeast. The current talk draws from his forthcoming book: *Empire and the Meaning of Religion in Northeast Asia* (Cambridge University Press, 2016). He is currently Visiting Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, where he is researching the transformation of agriculture in northern Heilongjiang.

Sponsored by the **Department of History** (School of Humanities) and the **School of Modern Languages and Cultures**