

Vienna Taiwan Lecture Series

The Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology and
the Vienna Center for Taiwan Studies are pleased to announce a lecture by

TSC
台灣研究中心

DR MICHAEL RUDOLPH
University of Southern Denmark

Taiwan's Indigenous Activism in Transition: From 'Counter-Hegemonic Presbyterian Aboriginality' to the 'Bureaucratization of Indigeneity'

ABSTRACT

In most parts of the world, on-going globalisation and the destruction of natural environments constantly reduce indigenous peoples' chances for independent development and cultural survival. The political paradigm shift in Taiwan during the 1990s brought new hope for the island's Austronesian aborigines. In the course of the process of demarcation and emancipation of Taiwan's Han from mainland influences, these ethnic minorities became a crucial factor in Taiwanese identity construction and hence were awarded with specific protection- and support measures. In a more and more multiculturalist Taiwan, the pan-ethnic movement of Taiwanese aborigines – a movement that was founded by intellectual elites in 1984 and that had a strong Christian orientation in the beginning – now prospered with great speed and induced a long line of political successes, starting with the constitutional recognition of aborigines' status in Taiwan and the self-chosen pan-ethnic name 'Yuanzhumin' (Aborigines) in 1994 up to the implementation of a quasi-ministerial 'Council of Indigenous Peoples' on the central government level in 1996. In the whole process, however, the leading intellectuals were only reluctantly encouraged and supported by the common people of aboriginal society. This gulf between elites and people can still be observed today.

MICHAEL RUDOLPH studied Chinese Studies, Japanese Studies, and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Heidelberg. He is specialized in comparative social and cultural studies with focus on Greater China. Since 2007, Rudolph is professor at the University of Southern Denmark, where he is in charge of the programs 'BA and MA Business, language, and culture (Chinese)' and teaches courses in Intercultural Communication and Chinese society and culture.



Date: Wednesday 21st January, 2015

Time: 18:15

Location: SIN 1, at the Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology,
Altes AKH, Campus, Spitalgasse 2, yard 2, entrance 2.3
<http://campus.univie.ac.at/plan-universitaere-einrichtungen>

Introduction and discussion lead by Dr Astrid Lipinsky – University of Vienna
The lecture is open to the public without charge or prior registration

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