





The Emotions of Justice: People's Voices and their Petitioning Activity in Late Chosŏn Korea

Date: 18 February 2022 (Friday)

Time: 10:00 am (HKT)

Venue: Online (This talk will be held via Zoom.)

Speaker:

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Abstract

Focusing on the petitioning activity of various subjects during the Chosŏn dynasty (1392–1910), this presentation focuses on three discursive fields of law: the role of emotions in administering justice; the construction of legal culture through the performative aspect of petitioning; and the formation of multilayered legal subjectivities. By tracing a discourse of emotions and linguistic practices in the juridical field of the Chosŏn, it demonstrates a new conceptualization of non-Western and early modern justice by drawing on a wide range of previously unexploited sources, including literary Chinese and vernacular Korean petitions, official documents, criminal records, legal codes, and didactic texts. By examining the intersection of gender, status, emotions, and law, it aims to further the interdisciplinary dialogue beyond East Asian studies and expand the historical scholarship on the topic of justice.

Short Biography

Jisoo M. Kim is Korea Foundation Associate Professor of History, International Affairs, and East Asian Languages and Literatures at GW. She is the Founding Director of the Institute for Korean Studies and the Founding Co-Director of the East Asia National Resource Center. She also serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Korean Studies. She is an author of the award-winning The Emotions of Justice: Gender, Status, and Legal Performance in Chosŏn Korea published by the University of Washington Press (2016). She is also the co-editor of The Great East Asian War and the Birth of the Korean Nation by JaHyun Kim Haboush (2016).

Registration is required. Please email: jooglee@cityu.edu.hk