

JAPAN NOW Lecture Series



Multi-Ethnic Japan

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CHAIRER BY

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Friday, October 7

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Hart House – Music Room

West Wing, 2nd Floor
7 Hart House Circle

» Registration:

<http://munkschool.utoronto.ca/event/21442/register/>

Mrs. Renho, a female politician with a Taiwanese father was elected to the leadership of the Democratic Party of Japan, which implies she could even be the Japan's prime minister. Although her "dual-nationality" triggered some debate, what is more important and interesting is that her ethnic background does not seem to have handicapped her political career. In fact, both the size and roles of minority ethnic groups in Japan are far from negligible though they tend to be belittled as poor powerless groups. In addition, constant inflows of "newcomers" have been transforming their social status and public images. This lecture will give a snapshot of ethnic minorities in Japan today and discuss challenges Japan is facing as well as efforts being made to rectify them. It also tries to analyze the current status of Japan's multi-ethnization by referring to its historical contexts and geopolitical environments.



Masayuki Tadokoro is a Professor at Keio University, who previously taught at the National Defense Academy. He studied at Kyoto University and the London School of Economics. His primary field is international political economy, and he works also on Japanese foreign and security policy. Currently he is spending his sabbatical at University of Waterloo.