Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo:
Contemporary China Research Base Seminar Series (No.27)
現代中国研究拠点セミナーシリーズ（第27回）

Speaker: Professor Jae Ho Chung (Seoul National University)

Topic: “Centrifugal Empire: Central-local Relations in China”

Date: 2016 Year 9 Month 15 Day (Thursday), 17:00～19:00
（15th September 2016 (Thursday), 17:00～19:00）

Venue: Room 307, 3F, Institute of Social Science Building, The University of Tokyo (Hongo Campus)

Campus map: http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/campusmap/cam01_12_03_j.html

Language: English

※ 事前申込制・参加無料

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Summary:

Despite the destabilizing potential of governing a vast territory and a large multicultural population, the centralized government of the People's Republic of China has held together for decades, resisting efforts at local autonomy. By analyzing Beijing's strategies for maintaining control even in the reformist post-Mao era, "Centrifugal Empire" reveals the unique thinking behind China's approach to local governance, its historical roots, and its deflection of divergent interests.

"Centrifugal Empire" examines the logic, mode, and instrument of local governance established by the People's Republic, and then compares the current system to the practices of its dynastic predecessors. The result is an expansive portrait of Chinese leaders' attitudes toward regional autonomy and local challenges, one concerned with territory-specific preoccupations and manifesting in constant searches for an optimal design of control. Jae Ho Chung reveals how current communist instruments of local governance echo imperial institutions, while exposing the Leninist regime's savvy adaptation to contemporary issues and its need for more sophisticated inter-local
networks to keep its unitary rule intact. He casts the challenges to China's central-local relations as perennial, since the dilution of the system's "socialist" or "Communist" character will only accentuate its fundamentally Chinese--or centrifugal--nature.

**About Prof. Jae Ho Chung:**

Jae Ho Chung is professor of international relations and director of the Program on U.S.-China Relations (PUCR) at Seoul National University. He is also the founding coordinator of the Asian Network for the Study of Local China (ANSLoC). His books include "Assessing China's Power" (2015) and "Between Ally and Partner: Korea-China Relations and the United States" (Columbia, 2006).

Professor Chung is a graduate of Seoul National University, Brown University, and the University of Michigan where he received his Ph.D. in 1993. Before joining the faculty of Seoul National University in 1996, he taught at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology during 1993-96 and was a CNAPS Fellow at the Brookings Institution during 2002-3. He was also Korea Foundation Visiting Professor at Renmin University of China in 2007. Professor Chung is a member of the International Advisory Committee of the Universities Service Centre at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Chung has served on the advisory committee for the Republic of Korea's Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and of Reunification, Presidential Commission on Policy Planning, and the National Security Council.

Curriculum Vitae (English):

[http://hosting03.snu.ac.kr/~chungir/indexeng.html](http://hosting03.snu.ac.kr/~chungir/indexeng.html)

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