

Penn State Institute for Korean Studies Talk Series



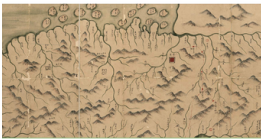
"Kang Shijue: Refugee and State on Chosŏn Korea's Northern Frontier"

By Adam Bohnet (Associate Professor, University of Western Ontario)

Turning toward Edification

Foreigners in
Chosŏn Korea

Adam Bohnet



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Chosŏn Korea is often described simultaneously as closed to the outside world and Sinocentric. However, as I discuss in my monograph there are numerous cases of foreigners settling in Chosŏn until 1644, and no evidence that being of Chinese origin helped or hurt one's social status. In this presentation, I will discuss a key figure, Kang Shijue, a Ming soldier who fought against Nurhaci in Liaodong before taking refuge in Chosŏn after 1625. His interaction with the Chosŏn state is informative for understanding the Chosŏn state's approach to its frontiers, frontier peoples, and foreigners.

(Moderator: Dr. Jooyeon Rhee, Penn State)

About Adam Bohnet

Dr. Adam Bohnet is an associate professor of history at King's University College at the University of Western Ontario. He received his master of arts degree from Kangwon National University in 2001 and his doctorate from the University of Toronto in 2008. He worked at the Research Institute of Korean Studies at Korea University in Seoul before coming to King's in 2012. His book, *Turning toward Edification: Foreigners in Chosŏn Korea*, was published by Hawaii University Press in December 2020.



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Thursday, March 18
4:00–5:00 p.m. EDT
[psiks@psu.edu](https://psu.zoom.us)

via Zoom (registration required)
<https://psu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAgdOmqqT0tHtYMK4Vlrbn0XU3V7nQ456Gw>