

PROMISES OF THE FATHERLAND: ESCAPE TO NORTH KOREA

MONASH UNIVERSITY KOREAN STUDIES RESEARCH HUB (MUKSRH) SEMINAR 3

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Dr. Markus Bell is an anthropologist specializing in refugees and labour migration, with over a decade of experience working with displaced people and migrant workers in the Asia Pacific region. He has taught at the Australian National University, University of Sheffield, and Goethe University, Frankfurt. He earned his PhD from ANU in 2016 and is currently a Research Fellow at La Trobe University, Melbourne. His new book, *Outsiders, Memories of Migration to and from North Korea* is available from Amazon. Tweets @mpsbell

ABSTRACT

Between 1959 and the early 1980s, 93,000 people migrated from Japan to North Korea. They went seeking a better life in Kim Il-sung's Korean People's Republic; they went seeking a place to call home. But the promises of the Fatherland would prove hollow. Recently, some 300 men and women have escaped North Korea and returned to Japan. In this special talk, Dr. Markus Bell reveals why so many left Japan for North Korea, what happened to them in their new home, and what this hidden history can teach us about forced migration in the world today.



Date: 18th May Wednesday 4pm (AEST)
Venue: Zoom

Register here:
<https://forms.gle/snbWRDA62kFq1VUC6>

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