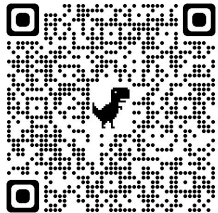


# PROMISES OF THE FATHERLAND: ESCAPE TO NORTH KOREA

**Dr. Markus Bell**

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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: Wednesday 18 May 4pm (AEST)**  
**Venue: Zoom**  
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