

The University of Hong Kong

香 港 大 學



Department of Politics and Public Administration

Presents

## **From Gentry Class Predominance to Civil Participation: The Transformation of the Governance Structure and Functions of the Temples in Taiwan's Rural Areas**

This presentation considers the development of the governance structure in Taiwan's rural temples, which have played a key role in the history of the local society. The study considers in detail the function of rural temples in local social life and identity formation, as well as recent transformations concomitant with social changes and political opening. The case studies illustrate the rural temples' transition from their traditional capacity to their current diverse governance structure and social services.



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Chao, Yung-mau (趙永茂) is Professor of Political Science at National Taiwan University. His research interests include local government and politics, British politics and society, intergovernmental relations and local governance. In addition to his seminal work *Change and Special Characteristics of Local Government in Taiwan* (1997), Prof. Chao has written numerous books and articles in Chinese and English, most notably on local government and elections in Taiwan. His recent publications include "The Restructuring of Local Politics and Political Parties in East Asia: From Establishments of Money-Politics to the Emergence of Active Civic Engagement" in *Panorama: Insights into Asian and European Affairs*(2013). He is also the lead editor of *Intergovernmental Relations: Emerging Issues and Strategies for Governance* (2012), published by the Social Sciences Academic Press in Beijing.

**Date: 23 January 2014 (Thursday)**

**Time: 4:30 – 6:00 pm**

**Venue: Room 813, The Jockey Club Tower  
Centennial Campus, HKU**

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