



# 워싱턴한미포럼 Korea-US Washington Forum

## The Fist (Winter) Regular Meeting of 2021

Saturday, January 23, 2021, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (EDT)

Teleconference via Webex

RSVP: kimrenau@gwu.edu, 1-703-598-2520

### “Religion and Politics”

In modern democracy, the idea of separation of church and state is sacred. This ideal, clearly stated in the Constitution of the United States, is challenged by the current social and political turmoil in American society. This panel aims to address the idea and reality of the separatism regarding religion and politics from historical and cross-cultural perspectives. The invited panelists will share their thoughts on the topic, bringing their insights based on their expertise as religious scholars and experts on Korea and also from their different cultural backgrounds.

### Featured Speakers

#### Don Baker



Don Baker is Professor of Korean Civilization in the Asian Studies Dept. at the Univ. of British Columbia. He has been involved with Korea since his Peace Corps service there in the early 1970s, and has been teaching about Korea since he earned his Ph.D. at the University of Washington in 1983. His recent publications include *Korean Spirituality* and *Catholics and Anti-Catholicism in Chosŏn Korea*. His research focuses on the role of religion in Korean history, with a special focus on the often contentious relations between religious communities and the state. He is currently researching the role played by religious communities during the Kwangu Uprising in 1980. From 2011 to 2015 he was President of the International Association for Korean Studies, dedicated to providing a neutral forum for South Korean and North Korean scholars to share their research. <https://asia.ubc.ca/profile/donald-baker>

#### Jin Y. Park



Jin Y. Park is Professor and Department Chair of Philosophy and Religion at American University. She specializes in Korean Buddhism, Buddhist and global ethics, East-West cross-cultural philosophy, and modern East Asian philosophy on the topics of gender, violence, and politics. Her books include *Women and Buddhist Philosophy* (2017); *Reflections of a Zen Buddhist Nun* (2014); *Makers of Modern Korean Buddhism* (2010); *Merleau-Ponty and Buddhism* (co-edited, 2009); *Buddhism and Postmodernity* (2008), *Buddhisms and Deconstructions* (2006). She currently serves as the President of the North American Korean Philosophy Association (2016-present). She was the President of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (2018-2019) and served on the board of directors of the American Academy of Religion (2013-2015).

<https://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/jypark.cfm>

#### Maya Stiller



Maya Stiller teaches Korean art history at the University of Kansas. She was born and raised in West-Berlin, Germany, and has lived and worked across Europe, East Asia, and the United States. With a double major in Korean Studies and Art History, she spent several years living in Korea and Japan, followed by a doctorate in East Asian Art History from Freie Universität Berlin. She came to the United States in 2008 to study Korean Buddhism and received a Ph.D. in Buddhist Studies and Korean History from UCLA in 2014. Her peer-reviewed journal articles have been published in the *Journal of Asian Studies*, the *Journal of Korean Religions*, and *Les Cahiers d'Extrême-Asie*. Her book *Carving Status at Kŭmgangsan: Elite Graffiti in Premodern Korea* is forthcoming with University of Washington Press.

<https://arthistory.ku.edu/maya-stiller>