Department of Asian & International Studies

A Challenge to Reform:
Religious Policy in the People’s Republic of China

By
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Date: 11 March 2011 (Friday)
Time: 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm
Venue: P4907, 4/F (near lift no. 17)
Academic Building, Purple Zone
City University of Hong Kong

ABSTRACT:
The Chinese Government regulates religion with policies established in the 1980s based on a Marxist-Leninist worldview which confined religious activities to the private domain and to a small number of religious sites. During the past three decades, there has been a rapid increase of religious believers and activities as Chinese citizens enjoy a more liberal social environment resulting from the Reform and Open Policy. However, there has been little structural change in state policy on religion. The increased prominence of religion in Chinese society is seriously challenging the relevance of the current policy. This seminar will examine the existing policy, the current religious dynamic, and the challenges that confront the Chinese authority.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:
Kim-kwong Chan Ph.D. (University of Ottawa), D. Th. (Pontifical St. Paul University), has taught in Hong Kong, UK and mainland China. He has authored and co-authored 11 volumes, including Protestantism in Contemporary China, co-authored with Alan Hunter (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993), and Religious Freedom in China: Policy, Administration and Regulation--A Research Handbook, co-authored with Eric Carlson (Santa Barbara, CA.: Institute for Study of American Religion, 2005). Dr Chan is an ordained minister in the Protestant Church and a Justice of the Peace of HKSAR.

All are Welcome

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