

NTU-EFEO Talk 專題演講

Speaker / 主講人

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Title / 講題

**From Analysis to Material Evidence:
The Reshaping of Puyuma Society at the Turn of the 20th Century**

Date / 日期

Friday, November 13, 2026, at 10:30 am

二〇二六年十一月十三日（五）上午十時三十分

Venue / 地點

Room B106, Department of Anthropology, National Taiwan University

國立台灣大學人類學系人文大樓 B106 室

Organized by the Department of Anthropology, National Taiwan University
& EFEO Taipei Center

Abstract / 摘要

In 1983, all the shamans in Nanwang, Taitung, except one, claimed that Samguan, an effeminate man, was the first shaman and that his origins were lost in the past. Only Abukul, the eldest shaman, disagreed, asserting that she used to bounce on his knees when she was a little girl in the early 20th century. But how could a man with a Chinese name be the first shaman? However, when I heard the final song of the shamans' 'journey,' another character emerged: Udekaw, a woman. One shaman explained to me that she was an ancient shaman lost in the mists of time. Two different versions of history. I then decided to study the period of early Japanese colonization to understand its impact on Puyuma society.

The Japanese administration transformed the entire society, banning religious practices, hunting, and headhunting rituals. Deprived of their hunting activities, the men gradually began to take part in the field work, which until then had been practiced by the women. According to Mabuchi Tōichi 馬淵東一 the Puyuma became rice-growers at the end of the 19th century, whereas Suenari Michio 末成道男 speaks of the beginning of the 20th century. Mac Govern accuses the Japanese of forcing this upon all mountain-dwellers. Japanese colonization caused profound upheavals to not

only the Puyuma's social organization and its division of labor by gender, but also to their religious and symbolic worlds attached to their subsistence model.

Decades later, my ethnographic work and hypotheses were validated when, on the one hand, I managed to find Samgwan's civil status records and, on the other hand, listen to a recording of a 98-year-old woman confirming that the Puyuma did not cultivate rice.

*The talk will be chaired by Prof. LO Su-mei, Associate Professor, Departement of Anthropology,
National Taiwan University.*

此演講由國立台灣大學人類學系羅素玫副教授主持。

The talk will be given in English. Registration is not required.
此為英文演講。自由入座，無須報名

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