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Tetsu Akiyama is Associate Professor in the Waseda Institute for Advanced Study (WIAS) at Waseda University. He received his PhD at Hokkaido University. His research focuses on the modern history of Central Asia. The goal of his research is to present a new modern history, an alternative to the evolving national historiography that has prevailed in Central Asia. Rather than merely analyzing the current conditions, it will dynamically and comprehensively reframe the formation of modern Central Asian states from a historical sociology perspective. Right now, he is investigating the activities of the former ruling class of Kyrgyz nomads through life history methodologies and mass media analysis. His publications include *Yūboku Eiyū to Roshia Teikoku: Aru Kuruguzu Shuryō no Kiseki* [Nomadic Hero and the Russian Empire: The Path of a Kyrgyz Leader] (Tokyo: University of Tokyo Press, 2016) and “Why Was Russian Direct Rule over Kyrgyz Nomads Dependent on Tribal Chieftains “Manaps”?”, *Cahiers du Monde russe*, vol.56(4), 2015.

At the Foot of the Sulayman Too Sacred Mountain: The Experience of Osh City as a Showcase of Migration Issue in Contemporary Central Asia

Abstract:

The Sulayman Mountain (*Sulaiman-Too*, Sulayman Rock, or Sulayman Throne) is a famous sacred site located at the eastern end of the Ferghana valley. Attracting many travelers from the ancient times, it was registered as a World Heritage Site of UNESCO in 2009. It is the city of Osh which lies around the base of *Sulaiman-Too*. Osh is the second-largest city in Kyrgyzstan, located in the south of the country and often referred to as the “capital of the south”. Based on the case study of Osh, this presentation will shed light on a series of migration issues, which the Central Asian countries have faced from the Soviet period to the present day.