



Cordially invites the public to a lecture by Prof.

Department of History University of Kentucky

Greetings

Yasukuni Shrine is well known for the political controversies its presence has generated both within Japan and between Japan and its neighbors. International critics fault the shrine for symbolizing Japan's desire to remilitarize. Japanese critics argue that the shrine encouraged reckless militarism during the Asia-Pacific War. But what exactly was Yasukuni Shrine's role during that war? In my talk, I reconstruct the postmortem fate of one soldier in order to demonstrate the particular ways in which private grief for war death was institutionalized into a national experience.

Akiko Takenaka is Associate Professor at the Department of History, University of Kentucky. Her book Yasukuni Shrine: History, Memory, and Japan's Unending Postwar (University of Hawaii Press, 2015) is the first book-length work in English that critically examines the controversial war memorial.

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