Dear colleague,

East Asian Institute (EAI) and Routledge cordially invites you to join us at our upcoming seminar and book launch event this November.

Venue: EAI Conference Room, NUS Bukit Timah Campus, 469A Bukit Timah Road, Tower Block #06-01, S(259770)

Light refreshments will be provided. There are no admission charges to this event. Due to limited seating capacity, registration for this event is required. However, if you are unable to register at this moment, please feel free to attend the seminar at your convenience without registration prior to the event. Thank you.

If you are unable to register via the Google form, please kindly send your registration to Ms. Clara Cho (clara.cho@tandf.com.sg).

Programme

3.30 PM - 3.40 PM
Welcome Remarks by Prof. Bert Hofman, Director, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore and Routledge representative

3.40 PM - 4.20 PM
Seminar - ‘Culture and Governance in East Asia’
Speaker - Prof. Hong Hai, Adjunct Professor, Nanyang Technological University
Chairperson - Dr. Lam Peng Er, Senior Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore

Abstract … Corporate and state governance is deeply influenced by culture. While authoritarian state governance is viewed disapprovingly in the West, its business corporations are typically authoritarian, with power concentrated in the chief executive and board of directors who do not seek consent or consensus from employees for management decisions. This divergence between corporate culture and political culture may explain why in countries like the United States, corporations tend to be run with less dysfunctionality than the state government. In some East Asian states like China and Singapore, benevolent authoritarian leaderships are selected by a meritocratic process, with Confucian ethics playing a significant role in their political systems. In Japan, Confucianism in national politics has declined since the Meiji Restoration and liberal democracy has been adopted after World War II. While there is some dysfunctionality at the state level, her corporations retain Confucian values and appear to be more resilient.
About the Speaker … Hong Hai, Adjunct Professor at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), was former dean of NTU’s business school and a past Member of Parliament of Singapore. His early graduate training was in economics, but he developed a mid-career interest in philosophy and Chinese literature, receiving a Masters in Chinese language and literature from Beijing Normal University. He completed his MPA at Harvard and a PhD in philosophy at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He has published in economics, Chinese medicine and philosophy. He is author of *The Rule of Culture: Corporate and state governance in China and East Asia* (Routledge 2019).

4.20 PM - 4.50 PM
Comments by Prof. Wang Gungwu, University Professor, National University of Singapore & Q&A session

4.50 PM - 5.00 PM
Book Launch - 'The Rule of Culture: Corporate and State Governance in China and East Asia' by Prof. Bert Hofman, Director, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore and Routledge representative

Coffee & Refreshments

Book Signing

About the Book

**The Rule of Culture: Corporate and State Governance in China and East Asia**

*By Professor Hong Hai, Adjunct Professor, Nanyang Technological University (NTU)*

Culture has an abiding influence on the way countries and business corporations are governed. This book introduces the reader to the deep philosophies that drive corporations and governments in East Asia, from China through Japan and South Korea to Singapore.

Find out more

About EAI

Set up in April 1997 as an autonomous research organization under a statute of the National University of Singapore (NUS), the main mission of EAI is to promote both academic and policy-oriented research on East Asian development, particularly the political, economic and social development of contemporary China (including Hong Kong and Taiwan), and China’s growing economic relations with the region and the world at large, including Japan, Korea and ASEAN.

Find out more at [https://research.nus.edu.sg/eai/](https://research.nus.edu.sg/eai/).

We look forward to receiving your registration.

*Routledge Books*