

## A PUBLIC LECTURE

# CELEBRATING CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN HONG KONG: MAKING INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION WORK

**Dr. Siumi Maria Tam**

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The Chinese University of Hong Kong



### *Biography of Siumi Maria Tam*

Siumi Maria Tam is an adjunct associate professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, with research interests in cultural identity in social transformation, especially gender and ethnic identities in transnational mobility. Her previous studies include a pioneering study on mistress-keeping across the Hongkong-China border, three generations of Nepali women in Hong Kong, and gender and professions in Hong Kong. She founded the Multiculturalism in Action Project (MIA) in 2013, which aims to raise cross-cultural sensibility and promote ethnic and gender equality. MIA's intercultural education programs promote partnership, mutual empowerment, and sustainable relations among different ethnic groups in Hong Kong. The most recent program is an arts and crafts workshop that uses anthropological knowledge to debunk stereotypes and break down cultural barriers.

### *Abstract*

Hong Kong has been a multicultural society where different ethnic communities have settled since the 19th century. The description of Hong Kong as a melting pot of Eastern and Western characteristics however has ignored the various ethnic communities' contribution to the making of Hong Kong as a metropolitan city. Formal education has grossly neglected cross-cultural knowledge while the public lacks positive interethnic relations in daily life. These have resulted in cultural misconceptions and social discrimination, and a waste of valuable talents and transnational networks that really are markers of metropolitan cities. Recognizing and celebrating the cultural diversity in Hong Kong will enhance cultural sensibility and help to develop a worldview fit for the global age. The speaker will introduce some of the ethnic minorities in Hong Kong, their cultural traditions and challenges that they have faced. She will discuss how intercultural education is a mutually empowering experience for all, as well as a fun and creative process that is meaningful in and beyond the classroom.

<b>Date</b>	<b>November 9, 2020 (Monday)</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>10:00 am - 11:30 am</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>AAB613, Academic and Administration Building 15 Baptist University Road, Kowloon Tong</b>
<b>Language</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>Zoom Meeting ID</b>	<b>973 1615 1237</b>
<b>Passcode</b>	<b>104600001</b>

*No registration is required. Please feel free to join via Zoom.*

<https://hkbu.zoom.us/j/97316151237?pwd=Y2hkWFFeY2QwSUN4VWEzaFRZeW91dz09>

