



École française d'Extrême-Orient, Centre de Taipei
法國遠東學院臺北中心

The French School of Asian Studies (EFEO), Taipei Center
has the pleasure to invite you to attend the following talks by

Prof. Élisabeth CHABANOL

Associate Professor & Head, Seoul Center
French School of Asian Studies (EFEO)
法國遠東學院副教授兼首爾中心主任

I.

**Koryŏ (918 1392) and its Two Main Capitals:
Kaesong (918 1232, 1270 1392) and Kanghai (1232 1270)**

on Monday, April 28, 2025 at 3:00 pm

**Room 703, Research Building, Institute of History and Philology
Academia Sinica**

Organized by the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica & the EFEO
Taipei Center

*The talk will be chaired by Prof. LIN Sheng-chih, Research Fellow and Deputy Director, Institute
of History and Philology, Academia Sinica & Prof. Frank MUYARD, Head, EFEO Taipei Center.*

此演講由中研院史語所研究員兼副所長林聖智教授、法國遠東學院臺北中心主任梅豪方
教授共同主持。

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

Abstract:

The city of Kaesong 開城 is located to the north of the DMZ that separates the two Koreas, 8km to the west of P'anmunjŏm village and 160km south of the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, DPRK. The site has the rivers Yesong and Imjin to the south/south-west and the Western Sea (or Yellow Sea) to the west. In 918, when Wang Kŏn 王建 (r. 918 943) unified the Korean Peninsula, he chose this site in the center of the



École française d'Extrême-Orient, Centre de Taipei
法國遠東學院臺北中心

peninsula as the capital of his kingdom, Koryŏ 高麗. This brilliant capital, then called Kaegyŏng 開京, was much admired by neighboring countries, as described by the Chinese envoy Xu Jing, who visited in 1123. But the Mongol invasion of 1231 was a real shock for the Korean government. Not only were the border fortresses swiftly overrun, the Koryŏ army itself was crushed on the battlefield. Mongol units heading south crossed the Yesŏng river, west of Kaegyŏng, and began to surround the Koryŏ capital, while vanguards advanced to the South. The trauma was so great that Ch'oe U 崔瑀 (1166–1249), the military leader who ruled the kingdom, decided to transfer the capital from Kaegyŏng to the island of Kanghwa-to 江華島, close to the mainland. In the seventh month of 1232, the transfer was completed and a new capital founded under the name of Kangdo 江都. According to most documents, the new capital was very similar to Kaegyŏng, albeit smaller. In the course of this lecture, we will show an overview of the sites of these two main Koryŏ capitals now located on either side of the 38th parallel, and of Mongol resistance capitals Chin-to, Cheju-do and Namhae-do.

II.

An Archaeological Perspective on the Urban Development of the City of Kaesong: From the Koryŏ Period to Twentieth-Century DPR Korea

on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 12:30 pm

**Room 201, Department of Anthropology, Shui-yuan Campus,
National Taiwan University**

國立台灣大學水源校區人類學系 201 室

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

Abstract:

Historical written sources related to the construction of the successive walls of the city of Kaesong 開城, capital of the Koryŏ Kingdom (高麗 918–1392), are biased and partial. They rarely provide details about the exact configuration of the defence systems, the evolution of construction techniques, modifications, or repairs, and they do not explain the transformation of the city. The research we conducted on the structures and successive boundaries of the walls of Kaesong not only provide a significant contribution to the historical and material knowledge of the city, but also constitute the scientific basis for the development of an operational heritage management strategy.



École française d'Extrême-Orient, Centre de Taipei
法國遠東學院臺北中心

After prospective work in 2010, an archaeological project proposal was submitted to the Advisory Commission for Archaeological Research Abroad of the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs. In February 2011, the Archaeological Mission at Kaesong was established, involving the French School of Asian Studies and the National Authority for Protection of Cultural Heritage, DPR Korea. In 2014, an exhibition presenting the first results was held in Pyongyang. Since 2018, research has been extended to royal tombs distributed outside the enclosures of the city of Kaesong. This lecture will outline the progress of this unprecedented cooperation.

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

法國遠東學院 臺北中心 謹啟
[École française d'Extrême-Orient, Taipei Center](#)
Institute of History and Philology
Academia Sinica, Nankang
Taipei City 11529, TAIWAN
法國遠東學院 臺北中心
臺灣 臺北市 南港區 11529
中央研究院 歷史語言研究所
Tel. : 886 2 26 52 31 77
Fax : 886 2 27 85 20 35
efeotpe@mail.ihp.sinica.edu.tw
<https://www.facebook.com/efeo.taipei/>