



RITUAL CONFINEMENT AND SUICIDE ON MT. FUJI IN THE EDO PERIOD

Thursday 8 October, 6pm, 403 Kent, Columbia University

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The discipline of confinement (*okomori*) in mountain caves and other enclosures has long been practiced in Japan, especially by Buddhist and Shugendō ascetics. This talk considers the case of Jikigyō Miroku (1671-1733), a formative figure in the popular worship of Mt. Fuji (later known as Fujikō). Unlike the practices of other mountain ascetics of his time, Jikigyō's self-confinement and eventual death embodied a political as well as religious message.



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