

Contrasting memories of Japanese colonisation in Korea and Taiwan

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Taiwan and Korea were colonised by Imperial Japan for much of the first half of the 20th century, and liberated only after Japan surrendered to allied forces in 1945. While North and South Korea continue to share a deep resentment towards Japan, Taiwan exhibits a more positive attitude towards their former coloniser. Why is there such a stark difference in attitude towards Japan, and what present-day political ends do the differing narratives serve? Korea historian Prof Kyung Moon Hwang and Asia historian Dr Lewis Mayo examine the ongoing legacy of Japanese colonization. Presented by Jane Hutcheon.

An Asia Institute podcast. Produced and edited by profactual.com. Music by audionautix.com. Transcript [here](#).

Main image: L->R: Prof Kyung Moon Hwang and Dr Lewis Mayo.

Listing image: Statue in Berlin marking the sexual enslavement of women in Korea by the Japanese army during WW2. Credit: Hossam el-Hamalawy/Flickr.