



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST ASIAN STUDIES CENTER

# **IKS SPRING 2019 LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS:**

## **WEAPONIZING MEMORY: SHIFTS IN NORTH KOREAN LITERATURE**

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The Korean War, or the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War as North Korea calls it, was arguably the most traumatic moment in modern Korean history. The DPRK insists that the Americans started the war and proudly asserts its victory over them. Despite the air of triumph in national discourse, North Korean literature has been accentuating the harrowing experience of the war, keeping the nation in “a constant state of emergency.” Such publication of war stories in North Korea is the ideological trajectory that creates, unites, and solidifies collective memory to persist in the present. However, starting from the 1980s, literary representations of the war shift from a unifying state discourse to individual memory that questions or even undermines the prevailing political ideology.



**Free and open to the public**  
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**Tues  
April 02  
4:00-5:15 PM  
Ramseyer Hall 100**

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