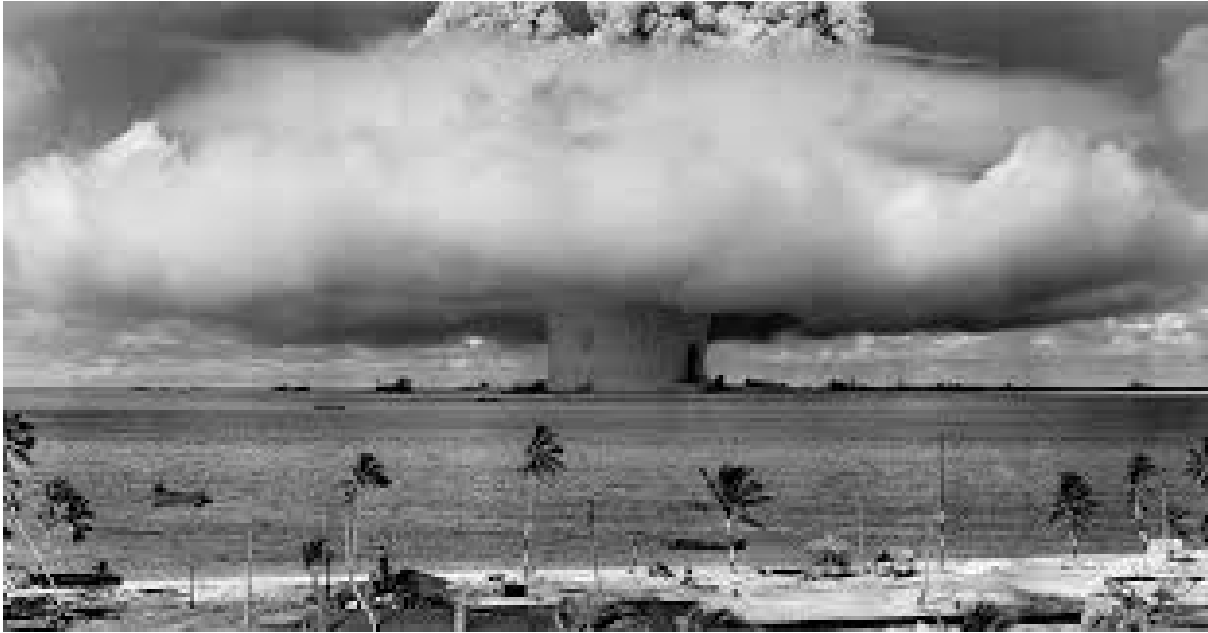


PAAS 285: Environmental Justice in Asia



Credit: US Department of Defense Castle Bravo Nuclear Test on Bikini Atoll, Marshall Islands, 1954.

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Course description:

The contemporary fact of widespread environmental inequality in Asia and the Pacific today is rooted in the foundations of multiple imperialisms and settler modernity. While “environmental racism” emerged from an anti-pollution struggle in the US, this course extends the tool of “environmental justice” beyond the Americas to examine how Asian communities grappling with environmental struggles center critiques of imperialism, modernity, development, and even science. We will focus on themes such as water, pollution, militarization, industrial accidents, nuclear and hydroelectric energy, climate justice, and Indigenous Land relations to examine how particular communities across Asia and the Pacific have addressed these environmental challenges. The course also explores the contemporary state of environmental justice across Asia and the Pacific to deepen our understanding of how individuals and communities mobilize certain publics to manage environment and livelihood, and how contrasting rhetorics or mobilizing strategies are imagined and enacted

Proposed assignments: (Include the nature and number of assignments and percentages for each.)

Class Engagement (20%)

Global EJ Mapping exercise (15%)

Midterm exam (20%)

Independent Research Paper (on EJ case in Asia) (25%)

Final exam (20%)

Proposed reading list:

Ghosh, Amitav. *The Nutmeg's Curse*.

Hathaway, Michael. *Environmental Winds: Making the Global in Southwest China*.

Jacobs, Robert. *Nuclear Bodies: The Global Hibakusha*.

Murphy, Michelle. *The Economization of Life*.

Walker, Brett. *Japan at Nature's Edge*.