

# Lecture: “Barbarians” and Bronzes: The Origins of Civilization in Ancient Vietnam

**Dr. Nam Kim**

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Guest Lecturer

**Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 4:00pm**

**Room HHS302**

**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Building**

**University of Guam - Mangilao**

## Lecture summary:

Two thousand years ago, China’s Han Empire stretched its imperial grasp beyond the mountains far to the south of the Central Plains, reaching into the domains of “barbarians”. Along its southernmost periphery lay the Red River Valley (RRV) of present-day Vietnam. In their chronicles, the Han claimed that they “civilized” the RRV’s “barbarians”. In contrast, many Vietnamese believe this time and location represents the birthplace of an indigenous, Vietnamese civilization that predates Han arrival. This view has been traditionally based on colorful tales and legends. One of the most enduring accounts tells of the Au Lac Kingdom and its capital city, known as Co Loa. Thus, at the heart of ongoing, intense, and sometimes nationalistic debates are two contrasting views. One sees “civilization” as a byproduct of Han arrival, while the other sees it as the outcome of local, indigenous cultural traditions. This lecture presents new and ongoing archaeological research that addresses these themes and questions. Specifically, it highlights recent investigations at the Co Loa site, considered to be the first capital of ancient Vietnam.



*IMAGE: Temple of An Duong Vuong in Co Loa commune, Dong Anh district, Hanoi Photo courtesy of VuThiAnh, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons*



**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

For more information, SCAN the QR Code, call toll-free 1844-487-4364, extension 2, or email [info@guamphilharmonic.org](mailto:info@guamphilharmonic.org)

# LECTURE: Plumbing Nebulous Depths: Exploring Violence and Warfare in Humanity's Past

**Dr. Nam Kim**

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Guest Lecturer

**Friday, August 11, 2023, 2:00pm**  
**Study Room**  
**Hagatna Public Library - Hagatna**

## Lecture summary:

Are we an inherently violent species? Has “warfare” always existed for humanity? How has warfare evolved over time? In recent decades, researchers around the world have become increasingly interested in studying ancient forms of organized violence and warfare, recognizing implications for the modern world and prospects for peace. This lecture highlights anthropological research regarding the antiquity and earliest cultural expressions of collective violence. Featuring case studies through time and space, the lecture considers practices related to violence and warfare from the remote past, and how such behaviors may have been significant for both biological and cultural changes in human history.



IMAGE: Woodcut engraving of Ares (Mars) from the the book “Der Olymp oder die Mythologie der Griechen und Römer (The Olympus or the Mythology of the Greeks and Romans)”, published by August Heinrich Petiscus in C.F. Amelang’s Verlag, Leipzig (1878, 18th edition). Public Domain



**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

For more information, SCAN the QR Code, call toll-free 1844-487-4364, extension 2, or email [info@guamphilharmonic.org](mailto:info@guamphilharmonic.org)