



**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY  
CENTRE FOR ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH  
CENTRE FOR HONG KONG PRE-HISTORY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**

Jointly present

a round table discussion on

**LANGUAGES AND THE PRE-HISTORY OF SOUTH CHINA**

**Laurent Sagart**

*The round table discussion with Laurent Sagart, will cover the possible links between major East Asian language families (Sino-Tibetan, Austronesian, Austroasiatic, Tai, Miao-Yao) and their relationship with the rise of agriculture. A particular focus will be Taiwan and the origins of the Austronesians.*

Thursday, December 4, 2003

5:00 p.m.

Room 1118, K.K. Leung Building  
The University of Hong Kong

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

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**Laurent Sagart** (1951- ) is a researcher with the Centre de Recherches Linguistiques sur l'Asie Orientale (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), Paris, France. He received his education in Bordeaux, Paris and Nanjing and his Ph.D. from the University of Aix-Marseille in 1990. A specialist of Chinese linguistics, he is the author of three books and numerous articles in Chinese dialectology, Old Chinese phonology and morphology, comparative Chinese linguistics, and the Austronesian languages. Laurent Sagart has been a visiting scholar in Hawaii, Melbourne and Beijing and a visiting professor in Taiwan. He has organized research projects in phonetics, historical phonology, and language contact. His most recent book is *The Roots of Old Chinese*, published by John Benjamins in 1999.