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WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

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*Education Program Presents*

**Seeds and Survival:  
Cultural Continuities in a Highland Cambodian Village**

Dr. Jonathan Padwe

Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Hawai‘i, at  
Mānoa

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Wednesday, September 24, 2014

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Keoni Auditorium, Imin International Conference Center

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The theme for this year’s Evening Seminar series concerns regional literacy and the notion of *kīpuka*, a Hawaiian word referring to safe havens that afford the possibility of future regeneration. This lecture, about seeds and survival in a highland village in northeast Cambodia, speaks directly to the idea of *kīpuka*. Residents of Tang Kadon village practiced a highly diverse form of upland rice agriculture for generations, until the upheavals of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century disrupted people’s lives and destroyed their livelihoods. And yet, after a few decades, villagers had put their agricultural system back together – a great accomplishment, and one that formed part of a larger effort to recover their culture in the face of adversity. How did they do it? This talk will describe not only how villagers attempted to put their farms, and their lives, back together, but will also raise a series of questions about how we narrate processes of disaster and recovery, and about what ethnographic research has to offer the study of conflict and its aftermath.

Jonathan Padwe is an environmental anthropologist at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa whose work looks at the production of ‘nature’ and ‘culture’ in borderlands and frontiers. He is currently at work on a book that historicizes the present-day crisis of land-grabbing in Cambodia by placing this story within the larger history of territorial struggles in the region dating back to before the French colonial period.

**We are firm believers in food-based learning. Excellent refreshments will be served. Please bring your own cup, plate/bowl and utensil. The public is invited to attend.**