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**China in Comparative  
Perspective Network (CCPN)**

## IFCCS4 --- LSE Seminar Series (14-16 September)

On the occasion of the Fourth International Forum on Contemporary China Studies (IFCCS4, the University of Nottingham, UK), the China in Comparative Perspective Network (CCPN) invited several well-known Chinese scholars to LSE to give a series of seminars from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September. The seminar series are sponsored by the Confucius Institute Business for London (CIBL), and will be held at **Seligman Library (OLD 6.05), Old Building, LSE.**

**Time and Date:** 15:00-17:00, 14<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday)

**Chair:** Professor Stephan Feuchtwang (CCPN Director)

**Speaker:** Professor WEN Tiejun

**Title:** Eight financial crises and their 'soft landings' in China over the past six decades

**Time and Date:** 19:00-21:00 14<sup>th</sup> September (Wednesday)

**Chair:** Professor Stephan Feuchtwang (CCPN Director)

**Speaker:** Professor LU Xueyi

**Title:** Construction of 'society modernization' is the major task in the next three decades

**Time and Date:** 19:00-21:00, 15<sup>th</sup> September (Thursday)

**Chair:** Dr Kent Deng (CCPN Co-Director, Reader in Economic history)

**Seminar 1** Society Re-construction: Experience & Challenges, Prof ZHANG Jing (Dept of Sociology, Peking University)

**Seminar 2:** How to understand China's politics, Professor JING Yuejin (Dept of Political Science, Tsinghua University)

**Time and Date:** 19:00-21:00, 16<sup>th</sup> September (Friday)

**Chair:** Dr Xiangqun Chang (CCPN Coordinator, Research Fellow)

**Speakers:** all speakers come from Department of Anthropology, School of Sociology and Anthropology, Sun Yat-sen University

**Seminar 1:** Professor ZHU Jiangang: Relational Transition between NGO and Government -- Case studies of Three NGOs in contemporary China

**Seminar 2:** Professor LIU Zhiyang: Inheritance and Vicissitude of the Tibetan Diet —Anthropological Fieldwork in Tibetan Rural Community

**Seminar 3:** Dr DUAN Ying: Being Chinese in Burma: Ethnicity and Cultural Citizenship

**Speaker 4:** Professor ZHOU Daming: Department of Anthropology at Sun Yat-sen University and the Development of Anthropology in China

## **Abstract:**

### **Eight financial crises and their ‘soft landings’ in China over the past six decades**

**WEN Tiejun**

After the Second World War, China, the country with the largest indigenous population, had once gone beyond a developmental trap—when its process of the statist capital primitive accumulation had not yet completed, it was forced to have ‘delinking’ under the blockage of international society, due to its broken relation to the Soviet Union and the suspension of investment. This led to crises of debt-deficit in 1959 and 1968— during the 60s China had to work hard for self-sufficiency. Actually, this is a model of ‘L’ (Labour) replacing ‘K’ (Capital)—a high collectivization of labour for national basic infrastructure, in order to replace the scarcity of capital [the author’s note 1: in our many papers, we have explained that the strategic adjustment out of passive de-linking largely happened during the 1960s. However, we have not enough data to further analyse how this kind of major strategic adjustment leads to the passive changing of the Soviet-model of the upper structure and the ideological terrain]. In the early 1970s, with the cessation of the Soviet nuclear threat, China restored its diplomatic relations to the west, continued to import machinery through national debt, and adopted a policy of ‘pro-capital’ like other countries experiencing scarcity of capital. Afterwards, two crises of debt-deficit happened in 1974 and 1979 [the author’s note 2: according to the “World Investment Report 1995 and 2009”, since 1991, the policy favoured an expansion of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). In 1991, 35 countries in the world adjusted the policy of FDI. Of 82 adjustments, 80 were pro-FDI expansion, only 2 for its restriction. From 2001-2005, there were more than 200 changes to FDI policy in the world, of which 90% were in favour of FDI expansion]. In the 1980s, China’s industrial capital completed its stage of primary accumulation, after which structural adjustment, and the accompanying expansion of industrial capital, and the pursuit of “capital and technological intensity” could take place. The debt-deficits of 1988 and 1994 were two outcomes. Pushed by the ideologized discourse of reform, in the late 1990s, China was hastily integrated into the world economy. However, as a country itself having tremendous industrial capital surplus, it entered the process of globalization at a time when there was already a serious surplus. Hence, it not only worsened the global situation of surplus, but also drove the surplus industrial capital, searching for “low” institutional costs and risks, to change global industrial structures dramatically. With increasing over-dependency on export-oriented industry, two imported inflation crises occurred, in 1998 and 2008. All the eight crises above mentioned share a characteristic: if the institutional costs could be transferred to the countryside, then there were soft-landings in the city. Otherwise, there were hard-landings.....

### **Construction of ‘society modernization’ is the major task in the next three decades**

**LU Xueyi**

About 50 years ago, Mr. Zhou Enlai, at that time Chinese premier, delivered a government report that turned China into a powerful country with modernized systems of agriculture, industry, defence and science & technology. About 40 years ago, on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 1972, Mr. Deng Xiaoping had a talk with the Japanese premier foretelling Four Modernizations, that is, that by the end of 20<sup>th</sup> century, average per person GDP would have risen to \$1000, and China would have become a moderately prosperous society. Modernization is a historic process by which a country or area undergoes transformation from a traditional agricultural society to a modern industrial one. That is, a country or area must realize modernization not only of its economy but in politics, culture and society. At present,

Chinese social modernization is being realized by social construction. The paper will attempt to rediscover the reason, conditions, goal and development period of social construction.

### **ZHANG Jing: Society Re-construction: Experience & Challenges**

With China's rapid economic development, the issue of how to reconstruct Chinese society has attracted great concern. For grass-roots social integration, examination of Chinese experience offers two traditional mechanisms: one is based on original blood and geographical relationships; the other features collectivization of production and redistribution under the the Danwei system in a socialist state. However, both these mechanisms are facing big challenges. The former, with its emphasis on strong locality and division features of close relationships, it is does not easily lend itself to playing a social role in public realms; the latter, with its passive connections and strong administrative arrangements, keeps people from building up cooperative relations based on mutual understanding and recognition. All in all, transformation toward a plural and heterogeneous society is greatly changing the conditions in which the two traditional mechanisms were developed and must now operate. From my point of view, in the new situation, we should concentrate our attention on the construction of new public relationships and new forms of social integration. We can tell all the story of what these relationships and patterns are right now, and know that in the future they should be based on the principle of shared interests and values among members of society.

### **JING Yuejin: How to understand China's politics**

During more than three decades of reform and opening up, great changes have taken place not only in the economic area but also in social and political life in China. However, the latter, especially political change, seem to have gone beyond the framework of expression of mainstream discourse in Political Science. Whether it is a case of external criticism based on universal values, or of considering (the China regime's) collapse, embarrassing academic difficulties. In this case, empirical analysis of China's political changes requires a new conceptual framework. To this end, we put two core questions. The first asks what concepts can be used to understand changes in contemporary Chinese politics? Terms such as 'party-state system', 'pendulum phenomenon', 'political evolution within the existing system' are considered to be helpful in achieving this goal. The second question is to ask if we can look at all these Chinese political changes in the perspective of comparative democratization. To this end, we propose a new dichotomy, the distinction between the source of power (or access to power) and the exercise of power. A new way of thinking about democratization can be revealed as follows: when the sources of power remain relatively stable, can the democratization process start with the exercise of power in substantive areas? This new angle, in my view, can help us to understand the relationship between government and citizens in contemporary China, in many dimensions such as representation, response, accountability, responsibility, legitimacy, etc.

**ZHU Jiangang: Relational Transition between NGO and Government**  
**---- Case studies of Three NGOs in contemporary China**

The beginning of the 21 century witnesses the rise of NGOs in China. Through analysis of three types of NGO, this paper argues that the relationship of NGOs and government is in the throes of deep and complicated transition. In the process of interaction, both sides depoliticized the NGOs' activities and limit their interaction in the field of development and social welfare. Furthermore, middlemen between government and NGOs play an important role in obtaining a useful interaction. The expertise in services and resource providence are the base of cooperation. However, a patriarchy model of the state still dominates this field. It challenges the autonomy of the NGOs. In the long run, the useful interaction is what legitimate the participation of NGOs in the social welfare policy process.

**LIU Zhiyang: Inheritance and Vicissitude of the Tibetan Diet**  
**—Anthropological Fieldwork in Tibetan Rural Community**

Inheritance and Vicissitude of the Tibetan Diet —Anthropological Fieldwork in Tibetan Rural Community

**Abstract:** The dietary structure and customs of the Tibetans include both simple and complex elements. The transition from a diet composed mainly of tsampa and butter tea to the integration of alien and industrialized foodstuffs into the Tibetan dietary culture reflects, in a way, the process of adaptation, integration and vicissitude of the Tibetan rural community during modernization. I explore the relationship between traditional culture and modernization in Tibetan rural communities in the process of cultural interaction and modernization by studying the dietary structure and customs of Tibetan farmers in Nyang-re Township on the northern outskirts of Lhasa, the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR).

**DUAN Ying: Being Chinese in Burma: Ethnicity and Cultural Citizenship**

The Chinese have a long history of living in Burma. However, most Burmese Chinese live in an insecure and uncertain world till now due to unequal citizenship. This research focuses on ethnicity and cultural citizenship of Chinese in Burma, a Buddhist state in Southeast Asia. Based on field work and ethnographical study on the Chinese community in Burma, it explores how Chinese people 1) live in Burma, especially under the military dictatorship, and The Burmese nationalism and injustice they encounter; 2) negotiate their rights and interests through various kinds of social activities and strategies; 3) construct their cultural citizenship, ethnic identity and national belonging under marginalized social circumstances. This talk will engage with a crucial issue: being Chinese in Burma.

**ZHOU Daming: Department of Anthropology at Sun Yat-sen University**  
**and the Development of Anthropology in China**

This talk takes the research of anthropology and ethnology in Sun Yat-sen University as an example, making a historical review and reconsideration to the development of anthropology

and ethnology in China. Not only is the goal to reconsider success and failure in the process of the discipline development, but also to respond to the demand of development and international dialogue in the context of globalization. The article consists of four parts: Firstly, through reviewing the origins of the department of Anthropology at Sun Yat-sen University, we describe the how the anthropology and ethnology spread in China and their practical process. Secondly, although the department of Anthropology was suspended for a period of time, it continued to do anthropological research under the cover of the archeology and ethnology. This reflects the development situation of China's anthropology and ethnology in the particular historical period. Thirdly, we will introduce the reconstruction and prosperity of the anthropology in China through displaying the characteristics of the current study in the department of anthropology at Sun Yat-sen University. Finally, we will reconsider the experience of discipline development, and discuss the direction of anthropology in the future.

### **Speaker's Biography:**

**WEN Tiejun**, Professor, Executive Dean, Institute of Advanced Studies for Sustainability, Dean, School of Agricultural Economics & Rural Development, Director, Institute of Rural Finance at Renmin University of China, PRC. He is a member of the State Consultant Committee of Environment Protection, Vice Chair-Person of the China Society of Agricultural Economics, and Deputy Secretary-General, China Macroeconomic Research Foundation. He is a renowned expert on social-economic sustainable development and rural issues, especially in policy studies on current affairs, the macro-economic, and geo-strategy of south-south cooperatives, and long-term inclusive growth. His main publications include: *Three Dimensional of Agrarian Issue and Institutional Transformations*, *Research on Rural China's Basic Economy System*, *Report on China's Constructing a New Socialist Countryside*, *Reading Southern Jiangsu Province*, *Reading Pearl River Delta: a Research on Guangdong's Developmental Model and the Strategy of Economic Adjustment Structure*, *The Centurial Reflection on the Three Dimensional Agrarian Issue*, *What Exactly Do We Want?*, and *Deconstructing Modernization*, among others.

**LU Xueyi**, Professor of Sociology, outstanding contributions expert of the State Council, famous sociologist and expert in "San Nong" issues. He is honorary academician of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Emeritus Academic Committee member of the CASS, Honorary President of the Chinese Sociological Association (CSA). He served as Director of the Institute of Sociology in CASS from 1987-1998. He is Director of the College of humanities and social sciences in BJUT (from 2000 to now). His main research areas are sociological theory, social structure, and rural development theory. He has chaired several important projects of the national philosophy and social sciences fund, and written about 200 articles in important journals. His main publications: *Golden time of rural development*, *Rural Areas and Peasants in the Process of Reform*(1992), *Chinese Society in Transformation*(1994), *On San Nong---The Study of Agriculture, Rural areas and Peasants in china's Today*(2002), *Social Mobility in Contemporary China*(2004), *60 Years Social Development in Beijing*(2008), *Social Structure in Contemporary China*(2010), etc.

**ZHANG Jing:** Professor of Sociology, Peking University. She obtained PhD at Chinese University, Hong Kong, in 1995. Zhang Jing is Researcher in the Center for Civil Society Studies at Peijing University. Her research fields cover Political Sociology, Sociology of Law, and Modern Transition of Chinese Society. She has published books, which include *The Unit of Organized Interests* (2001), *Problems of Rural Governance in China* (2000, 2006), *Corporatism* (2001, 2005), *The Public rule in Rural China* (2006), *The State and Society* (editor, 1999), *Citizen Status Identity: Idea, Attitude, Certification* (editor, 2006), *Civic Justice in transitional China* (editor, 2008).

**JING Yuejin:** Professor and Deputy Head, Department of Political Science, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tsinghua University. His research interests cover political sociology, Chinese politics. Currently, his research concentrates on the transformation of China's political system, and changing state-society relations. He has published a number of books, including *Introduction to Political Science* (2010), *On the Relations between Village Committees and Party Branches in Rural China since 1990'* (2004), *The Transformation of Political Space in Contemporary China* (2004), *Introduction to Comparative Politics* (2001), *Theories and Methods in Social Researches* (1990).

**ZHU Jiangang:** Professor, Department of Anthropology, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, Director of the Institute of Civil Society, Executive Director of the Center On Philanthropy, Researcher of the China Cross-cultural Consulting Center, Research fellow of the Center for Civil Society Studies, CUHK, and Specially Invited Researcher of the Institute of Sociology Chinese Academy of Social Science, Visiting scholar of Harvard-Yenching Institute. Research interests: Community power, Community development, Non-Profit organizations study, Political identification, Social movement, Urban space research and Gender study. Major publications: *Between the Family and the State: an ethnography of the civil associations and community movements in a Shanghai lilong neighborhood*. Beijing: China Social Sciences Academic Press (2010); *Community, Space, and Action*. Beijing: China Social Science Press (2010); *Obligation, Action, and Cooperation: case studies on NGO's participation in Wenchuan earthquake relief*. Beijing: Peking University Press (2009); *Power of Action: cases studies of the private volunteer organizations*. Beijing: Commercial Press (2008). He also published about 40 papers in the core academic journals in Chinese and English. Telephone: 86-20-84114276; Email: zhujg@mail.sysu.edu.cn

**LIU Zhiyang:** Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, School of Sociology and Anthropology, Sun Yat-sen University, adjunct Professor, Tibet University for Nationalities, Member of Board, China Association for Southwestern Ethnic Studies, Visiting Scholar, Tibet Center, University of Virginia, Research interest: Chinese ethnic society and culture.

**DUAN Jing:** Ph.D., Chinese University of Hong Kong) is Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the Sun Yat-sen University. He works on ethnicity, transnational network, globalization, Chinese communities in Burma and Thailand, and Chinese Overseas and China.

**ZHOU Daming:** Professor Department of Anthropology, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, Director of Migrants and Ethnic Group Research Center at Sun Yat-sen University, Member of Disciplinary Appraisal Panels under the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council, Expert of evaluation committee under National social science foundation, Pearl River scholar award scheme professor, Editor in chief of International Journal of Business Anthropology, Vice president of Chinese Ethnology Association, Vice president of Chinese Anthropology and Ethnology research association, Vice director of History Anthropology Research Center of Sun Yat-sen University. Research Interests: Urban anthropology, especially rural urbanization and migrant peasant workers in China; Chinese ethnic groups, especially the ethnic minorities and their regional relations in Southwest and Northwest China; Applied anthropology, especially the implementation of participatory development in China. Major Publication: *Seek Endogenous Development: The ethnic groups and cultures in Western China*, Guangzhou: Sun Yat-sen University Press (2005); *The Change of Phinix Village: the tracing research of Kulp's Country Life in South China*, Beijing: Social science Academic Press (2006); *The "Free" Urban marginals: the research of casual laborers in the cities of South-eastern China*, Guangzhou: Sun Yat-sen University Press (2006); *The ethnic groups and culture in Pearl River Basin*, Guangzhou: Sun Yat-sen University Press (2008). Telephone/ Fax: 86-20-84114286; E-mail: [hsszdm@mail.sysu.edu.cn](mailto:hsszdm@mail.sysu.edu.cn) .