



Seminar

FENG LIU

Bernhard Karlgren Fellow, SCAS.

Associate Professor of Chinese Philosophy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Beijing

Confucianism Studies in Modern China

Tuesday, 24 May, 11:15 a.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala
www.swedishcollegium.se

S W E D I S H
C O L L E G I U M
for ADVANCED STUDY

ABOUT FENG LIU

Feng Liu studied the history of Chinese thought at Northwest University, Xi'an, and in 2001 he received his Ph.D. from Nankai University, Tianjin. From 2002 to 2004, he did his postdoctoral research in the field of traditional Chinese philosophy at the Institute of Philosophy, CASS. From 2004 on, he is Associate Professor of Chinese Philosophy at CASS. He was a visiting scholar at the University of Cambridge in 2010–2011. He is also now the associate editor of the journal *History of Chinese Philosophy* (in Chinese) and the Deputy Secretary-General of the Society of Chinese Philosophy.

Feng Liu's main field of research is traditional Chinese thought, especially Confucianism and Confucian classics studies. His book *Ritual and Its Meanings: An Intellectual Study of Ritual Books in Northern Song China* (in Chinese) was published in April, 2016. It is a comprehensive study combining rituals, Confucian classics, political movements and social changes in 10th - 11th century China, a field in which he has focused his research in recent years. Feng Liu's publications also include the monograph *The Theory of Rites in the Pre-Qin Period and Its Relationship with the Integration of Traditional Chinese Society* (2002, in Chinese), focusing on rituals and their meanings in the 6th - 3rd century B.C., as well as over 30 papers. He is co-author of the 4-vol-book *Ritual and Society in Ancient China*, which was published in 2016, and has been involved in the "Ruzang Project" (by Peking University).

At SCAS, Feng Liu will continue his Confucian classics studies, focusing on a 12th-century Confucian, Zhu Xi, and in particular on his re-compiling of Confucian ritual books together with his disciples in his later years, the connection of the compiling with his philosophy, and its meaning for the development of neo-Confucianism in 12th century.

ABSTRACT

From 1980s, with the influences of modern neo-Confucianism from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, and even USA, Confucianism studies had been gradually reviving in mainland China. As a main part of "cultural craze" and the "national learning craze", and especially in 21st century, Confucianism became one of important trends in contemporary Chinese intellectual and cultural fields. To the academic researches, because of the newly discovered materials, and the support from the government, great progresses had been made in the researches about the history, figures, different schools about Confucianism, and a large scale Confucian works has been compiling. In addition to the progresses, there are some features and different opinions in this conservatism that should be considering seriously. I would highlight political Confucianism, rural Confucianism and social Confucianism in this seminar, which are the main trends in the contemporary Confucianism. At last I will point out that the complexity and limitations of contemporary Confucianism.