

## Beijing Forum 2019

### Contributing and Melding: The Dissemination of Sinitic Civilization (VI)

On the afternoon of November 3rd, the panel session “Contributing and Melding: The Dissemination of Sinitic Civilization” was inaugurated in the Grand Hall, Stanford Center, Peking University. Four speakers gave speeches on the topic “Contributing and Melding: The Dissemination of Sinitic Civilization”. Professor Rong Xinjiang from Peking University chaired the presentation.

Professor Shin Ha-Yoon, from Ewha Womans University, was the first scholar to present her paper, titled “The Dissemination and Acceptance of Chinese Poetics in Republic of Korea”, in which she concentrated especially on a poem—“Ambition to travel far” by Zhao Xiusan, a Chosun scholar in the 18th century, and *zhuzhi ci* 竹枝词. *Zhuzhi ci* were first written in the Tang Dynasty, were disseminated in the Song Dynasty, were popularized during the Ming and Qing dynasties, and were spread abroad during the Qing Dynasty. Eleven *zhuzhi ci* poems could be found in Zhao Xiusan’s anthology *Qiu zhai ji* 秋斋集, the preface of which reflects his creative spirit and world consciousness. After reading *wai yi* 外夷, *fang yi sheng lue* 方輿胜略, *zhuzhi ci* record the local conditions and customs of various countries in the materials collected by Chosun scholars, which shows Korea’s then friendly attitude towards the Qing Dynasty.

Chair Professor Chen Zhi, from Hong Kong Baptist University, was the second scholar to present his paper, titled “Analysis of the Chinese character ‘仁’ from the perspective of philology”. Professor Chen introduced various interpretations of “*ren*”, listed various meanings of *yi* “夷”, such as collective names: non-Chinese/barbarian tribes; proper nouns: names of *yi* groups; special identity: some groups of inhabitants who were perceived by the Zhou people as alien. Chen illustrated several kinds of bamboo slips and sorted out several original sources during the Warring States Period and concluded by giving out his assessment of the data.

Associate professor Dang Baohai, from Peking University, was the third scholar to present his paper, titled “Remarks on Three Chinese Toponyms in Odoric of Pordenone’s Relatio”. Professor Dang gave a brief account of Odoric of Pordenone’s travels in China from about 1322 to 1328. After leaving China, he returned to his native land and dictated an account of his eastward journey to scribes in St. Anthony’s cathedral. In Europe, Odoric was as great a traveler as Marco Polo, and

his voyage was no less memorable than those of Marco Polo. Because of his errors in pronouncing the names of places, many place names were confused when translating his travel notes. Dang listed the results of several scholars' textual research on those names, combined with maps and Latin texts, and solved the initial mistakes recorded by those who listened to the oral dictation of Odoric. Finally, Dang clarified the travel route of Odoric in China and corrected the mistakes made by previous scholars.

Professor Han Qi, from the Chinese Academy of Science was the last scholar to present his paper, titled "The Spread of Chinese Printing into the West: An Overview of the Studies." Professor Han introduced the three great Chinese inventions in the eyes of European scholars, sorted out the establishment of Carter's "Four Great Inventions" and the influence of Carter's works. Then, Han mainly introduces the his study of the history of the westward spread of printing, including how the ancient Chinese paid attention to printing, how the Europeans paid attention to printing and so on. Finally, Han answered questions about movable type printing and plate printing.