

## World Conference of Classics

8 ноября 2024 г.

### СЕКЦИЯ CLASSICAL WISDOM REINTERPRETED

Time: 1:30 pm – 3:15 pm

Location: Meeting Room No. 106

Moderator: **WAN Junren Ван Цзюнь жэнь** (Professor, Department of Philosophy, Tsinghua University)

#### **SPEAKERS:**

**1) Nadezhda VOLKOVA** (Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences)

Title: From Chaos to Cosmos: Plato on Primary Bodies

Prof. Nadezhda Volkova discussed two interpretations pertaining to the pre-cosmic state of the elements in Plato's *Timaeus*. According to one of them, in the pre-cosmic state of the world, the elements were bodies having certain stereometric forms. The second explanation argues that there were no bodies, but forces and qualities in the receptacle. Having analysed three passages from *Timaeus*, the speaker concluded that the first interpretation should be considered more probable than the second one.

**2) WANG Yufeng Ван Юйфэн** (Deputy-Director and Research Fellow, Institute of Philosophy, Beijing Academy of Social Sciences)

Title: Plato on the Leap from Sensory Knowledge to Rational Knowledge

Prof. *Ван Юйфэн* proposed explanation to the problems of cognitive process and the leap from sensory perception to intellectual grasping as presented in Plato's *Republic* Book VII in an attempt to clarify the process by which it is possible to move from the gradual accumulation of sensory perceptions to the act of rational comprehension. Prof. Wang comes to conclusion that it is mathematical method introduced by Plato in *Republic* VII that bridges the cognitive gap between sensory perception and rational knowledge.

**3) CHENG Zhimin Чэн Жиминь** (Professor, Center for Social Sciences, School of Humanities, Hainan University)

Title: On *Pax Romana*

Prof. *Чэн Жиминь* argued that intention and aim of *Pax Romana* was not pacification but endless conquest and constant expansion in space. To substantiate his thesis, he drew on a wealth of textual evidence from different eras, coming to the conclusion that not only was this approach incapable of leading to social tranquillity and peace, but, on the contrary, it required constant wars to maintain imperial dominance. Overall, *Pax Romana* is a complex phenomenon that combines historical reality, rhetoric and ideological representation of politics of power.

**4) LI Changchun Ли Чанчунь** (Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Sun Yat-Sen University; Vice President, Chinese Comparative Classical Studies Association)

Title: Politics of Virtue: An Investigation Based on the Classical and Historical Tradition

Prof. *Ли Чанчунь* analyzed the principle of manifestation of divinity through virtue as one of the basic characteristics of early classical Chinese civilization. He examined this principle in connection with the evolution of political forms. In doing this, Prof. Li aimed to clarify the meaning of classical virtue politics and corresponding conceptual order.

**5) GU Jiming Гу Цзимин** (Deputy Dean and Professor, School of Humanities, Tongji University)

Title: On the *Seven Categories* and the Aspirations of Classical Script Scholars

Prof. *Гу Цзимин* discussed the work of Лю Сян (Liu Xiang, 79 днэ — 6 днэ) and Лю Синь (Liu Xin, 50 днэ — 23), prominent imperial librarians and scholars of Han dynasty. Лю Синь completed the bibliographical work “Ци люе” (“Qi Lue”, “Seven Strategies”) begun by his father. Prof. Gu argued that their work had constitutional impact on Chinese classical tradition due to its political and philosophical aspirations. The division of the books made by them reflected strategies which can be seen as embodiment of these aspirations.

#### **Reviewers:**

**Valery PETROFF** (Chief Research Fellow, Director of the Centre for Ancient and Mediaeval Philosophy and Science (CAMPAS), Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences)

**ZHANG Wenjiang Чжан Вэнь Цзян** (Professor, School of Humanities, Тунцзи Tongji University)