The Chinese Media Discourse of Human Rights: **A Historico-intercultural Analysis and Assessment**

Prof. Shi-xu(施旭教授)

Research Fellow at the University of Amsterdam, Lecturer at the National University of Singapore, and Director of the Institute of Discourse and Cultural Studies, **Zhejiang University**

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Abstract

In international scholarship Chinese political discourse has usually been studied from a political-economic, and West-centric, perspective. Consequently, it is portrayed largely as a product of the Chinese politico-economic system, peculiar, deviant and unchanging. The speaker argues that Chinese political discourse must be seen as a dynamic, critical meaning-making agent in both local-historical and global-cultural interaction. By examining the case of the Chinese media discourse of human rights in the past decades through historical and cross-cultural analysis, he shows that the Chinese media discourse of human rights has been evolving topically, expanding socially, and re-emerging culturally, in response to Chinese history on the one hand and to American-Western subjugating discourse on the other. He suggests that contemporary mainstream scholarship go beyond the Euro/West-centric, or a-culturalist/a-historical frame of mind and take a more holistic and dynamic view of human-right communication.

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Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities 社會科學及人文學院 Department of Communication 傳播系