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UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU

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Transformation of Ancient Chinese Texts

From *Shangshu* to *Shiji*

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Abstract

Chinese ancient books were produced, transmitted, and systemized during their long-term development, and this lecture mainly focuses on the text-transformation issues from *Shangshu* to *Shiji*. Vertically seeing the transformation process of Chinese ancient texts as the mainstream of the text-transformed form, it might began at *Yinshang* period and ended up at the time when Si Maqian finished *Shiji* during *Xihan* period. This is the initial stage for the production of Chinese ancient texts. There were four stages in this long-term transformation, considering Confucius as a remarkable demarcation; and the mainstream during this period was to transform those oral historical events into formal texts, and considering the same importance of oral events with formal historical texts, this was time when we would better call it the oral-recording age. This kind of classics went through difficulties and finally generated which might have many problems. Nowadays, scholars must take some correct measures to deal with these problems.

Biography:

Professor Lai Changyang was born in Chongqing in 1945, he is a leading scholar of Twenty-Four Histories and currently works as a researcher of Historiography Institute in Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS). His academic references are as follows: Simatan zuoshikao (《司马谈作史考》) published on Journal of Historiography, 1982; Liangzhou shiguankao (《两周史官考》) published on Journal of Historical Studies in 1982; Shuo Shu, Shuxian, Shuxiancheng (《说“舒”、“舒县”、“舒城县”》) published in 2014 by People's Publishing House. Lidaimingjia Pingshiji (《历代名家评史记》) published by Beijing Normal University Press; The Development of Chinese Historiography (《中国史学发展史》); Zhongguo Lishi Dacidian (《中国历史大辞典》), Zhongguo Zhiguan Dacidian (《中国职官大辞典》); editing the Twenty-Four History (Newly Annotated version) (《今注本二十四史》)

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