

Speakers and schedule of the Conference “New perspectives on Chinese history: The use of archives from the middle and lower course of the Yangzi River and related regions (16th century – 1949)”

All speakers will have 105 minutes to present a region’s archives (places, dates, nature of the archives), and a bibliography of publications presenting a broad description of the archives, databanks, etc. They will then present their research on the archives, before, lastly, proceeding to a detailed reading from archives of their choice.

List of Speakers:

Zheng Zhenman 鄭振滿 (Professor, Institute of History, University of Xiamen), “The usefulness of primary archives: The archives of the mountainous regions of Fujian Province”

A Feng 阿風 (Professor, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), “Contracts and Jiangnan Society” 契约与江南社会.

The archives of Jiangsu are not as well known. Therefore, A Feng will provide a detailed description of them. Also a specialist in Huizhou and an author of important studies on contracts, he will compare documents of this kind from Huizhou and Jiangsu.

Wang Zhenzhong 王振忠 (Professor, Center for Historical Geographical Studies of Fudan University, Shanghai), “Account books in Huizhou. Study of a account book of a family of peasants from the district of Wuyuan in the early 20th century” 徽州排日賬總論. 晚清《龙源欧阳起瑛家用账簿》抄本的整理与研究.

In the past, Huizhou 徽州 (a region in Anhui) documents were not easy to access. But in the 1980s, they began to be published, and the same phenomenon has recurred in recent years. We should mention the thirty volumes edited by Wang Zhenzhong (*Huizhou minjian zhenxi wenxian jicheng* 徽州民间珍稀文献集成, 2018), and the fifty volumes edited by Liu Boshan 劉伯山, *Huizhou wenshou* (Documents of Huizhou), 2005-2015. Wang Zhenzhong will present an overview of current research on the Huizhou documents and examine the region’s account books.

Huang Zhifan 黃志繁 (Professor, Department of History, University of Nanchang), “Archives from four villages in the province of Jiangxi. The case of the archives of the village of Meibei (district of Qingyuan) 江西四個村落的檔案. 以青原漢陂村為例.

Four villages (*cun* 村) in the province of Jiangxi have been the object of monographs edited in 2017 by Huang Zhifan in the “Jiangxi gu cunluo dang’an congshu” 江西古村落檔案丛书 collection (Collection of Archives of the Ancient Villages of the Province of Jiangxi). Huang Zhifan will provide an overview of the documents found in those villages and deliver a more detailed presentation of the village of Meibei 漢陂 (district of Qingyuan 青原).

Liu Shigu 劉詩古 (Assistant Professor, Center for Research into Popular Historical Documents, University of Xiamen), “Archives on the fishermen of Lake Poyang in Jiangxi

province, from the late Ming to the first half of the 20th century” 從明末到民國時期的鄱陽湖文書的研究。

Documents held by families in the region of Lake Poyang 鄱陽湖, located to the south of the province of Jiangxi, have been published in 10 volumes. These documents essentially concern fishing activities. Liu Shigu will present a paper on these archives, which cover the period from the late Ming to the first half of the 20th century, and provide an analysis of the most significant legal disputes.

Zhang Yi 章毅 (Associate Professor, Department of History of Jiaotong University, Shanghai), “The association of the cult of Dipankara and the Qing dynasty archives from the village of Shicang in the province of Zhejiang” 定光古佛壽誕會簿與清代浙南石倉文書”。

Shicang 石倉 is a village located in the district of Songyang 松陽 (in the province of Zhejiang). It finds its origins in a major migration of people from the province of Fujian in the early years of the Qing dynasty. The archives discovered in the village include approximately 8,000 items, most of which dating from between 1723 and 1949. These archives, known as “contracts”, were published between 2011 and 2015 under the direction of Cao Shuji 曹樹基, Professor at Jiaotong University in Shanghai (*Zhongguo difang zhenxi wenxian. Shicang qiyue* 中國地方珍稀文獻石倉契約). Forty volumes were published and the university developed a website listing all the documents contained in them, with their reproductions and transcriptions, entirely indexed (see <http://dfwx.datahistory.cn/pc/>. Unfortunately, access to the index, which also includes documents from Huizhou, Jiangxi and Fujian, is restricted). Zhang Yi 章毅 will deliver a paper on these archives and address the economic aspects of a temple.

Lui Wing Sing 呂永昇 (Lecturer, University General Education, Chinese University of Hong Kong), “The archives of the South Peak (province of Hunan), from the Republican period to the 1980s” 民國時期到 80 年代的湖南南嶽檔案。

Lui Wing Sing has carried out research, essentially ethnological in nature, for his doctorate and post-doctorate on the central region of Hunan. He recently discovered archives on the South Peak 南嶽 located in the province of Hunan. Most of them are official reports on temples, lists of monks and priests, and land ownership during the Republican period. Since the same type of documentation exists for the 1890s, Lui Wing Sing will present a history of these documents and compare data from before and after 1949.

Sato Yoshifumi 佐藤仁史 (Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University), “Oral Archives and Local Documents of lower Yangzi Delta in Modern and Contemporary China” 田野中的近現代江南的社會：以口述歷史和地方文獻為例。

With remarkable progress made in the methods of field research in the study of Chinese history, the approach of oral history has been widely used. Sato Yoshifumi discusses the strengths and limitations of oral archives according to the accumulated experience from numerous fieldworks in Taihu Lake basin area (太湖流域社會). The experiences of surveying farmers and floating residents in Taihu Lake basin area show a way to utilize oral archives in the research of Chinese local history, in conjunction with local official archives,

gazetteers and newspapers and relevant documents. In addition, this report shows how ideas produced from fieldwork contribute to the retrospective understanding of local history.

Yang Cheng (PhD candidate, Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge), “The *Xingke tiben* and what they tell us about Jiangnan region” 刑科題本檔案所反映的江南地區.

Although the imperial archives are made up of rewritten documents, which means that a good deal of important information has been reformatted, it is nevertheless possible to use those archives in an original manner. In fact, in addition to a bottom-up perspective, we would like to provide a top-down view based on a unique central archive that was deeply rooted in local history. As part of his doctoral thesis, Yang Cheng 楊成, has built a database on part of the central archives of the Grand Secretariat (Nei ge 內閣) entitled *Xingke tiben* 刑科題本 (Routine Memoirs of the Bureau of Legal Inquiries). Those memoirs, of which there are over 250,000 for the 18th and 19th centuries, mainly concern trials of homicide convictions throughout the entire territory of the Empire. In extracting quantitative data from these archives, Yang Cheng has conducted research on populations, not in legal terms, but in a socio-economic, sociological and demographic sense (social categories, occupations, gender, fertility, migration, economic aspects, etc.). As well as presenting his methodology, Yang Cheng will focus on an analysis of data on the region that interests us.

Provisional programme

Paris, October 16th, 17th, 18th, 2019

Co-organized by Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient (Paris and Beijing Center), Max Weber Foundation (and its Branch Office in Peking), and Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (CECMC)

Scientific Committee for the Selection of Recipients of the European Travel Subvention members and moderators: Alain Arrault (EFEO), Michela Bussotti (EFEO), Xavier Paulès (Research Center on Modern and Contemporary China, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales), Hans Van Ess (Prof. of Munich University, President of Max Weber Foundation)

1st day, Wednesday October, 16th

Institut historique allemand (IHA-DHIP), 8, rue du Parc Royal, Paris 3^e

9:15-9:45: **Registration for recipients of the European travel subvention**

9:45-10: *Welcome*

10h: *Welcome speech*: Hans Van Ess (President of MWS)

10:15-12: **Zheng Zhenman**, “The usefulness of primary archives: The archives of the mountainous regions of Fujian Province”

12-13:15 *Lunch*

13:15-15 **A Feng** (Professor, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), “Contracts and Jiangnan Society” 契约与江南社会.

15-15:15 *Break*

15:15-17: **Zhang Yi** (Associate Professor, Department of History of Jiaotong University, Shanghai), “The association of the cult of Dipankara and the Qing dynasty archives from the village of Shicang in the province of Zhejiang” 定光古佛寿诞会簿与清代浙南石仓文书”.

17-17:15: *Break*

17:15-17:45: *Discussion*

2nd day, Thursday October 17th

Ecole des hautes études en Sciences sociales, 54, Bd Raspail, Paris 5^e

9:15-9:45: *Welcome*

9:45-10: *Welcome speech*: xxx

10-11:45: **Wang Zhenzhong** (Professor, Center for Historical Geographical Studies of Fudan University, Shanghai), “Account books in Huizhou. Study of a account book of a family of

peasants from the district of Wuyuan in the early 20th century” 徽州排日賬總論. 晚清《龙源欧阳起瑛家用账簿》抄本的整理与研究.

11:45-13 *Lunch*

13-14:45: **Huang Zhifan** (Professor, Department of History, University of Nanchang), “Archives from four villages in the province of Jiangxi. The case of the archives of the village of Meibei (circumscription of Qingyaun) 江西四個村落的檔案. 以青原漢陂村為例.

14:45-15 *Break*

15-16:45: **Liu Shigu** (Assistant Professor, Center for Research into Popular Historical Documents, University of Xiamen), “Archives on the fishermen of Lake Poyang in Jiangxi province, from the late Ming to the first half of the 20th century” 從明末到民國時期的鄱陽湖文書的研究.

16:45-17 *Break*

17-17:30 *Discussion*

3rd day, Friday October 18th

Ecole française d’Extrême-Orient, 22 av. du Président Wilson, Paris 16^e

9.30-9.45am: *Welcome*

9:45-10: *Welcome speech: xxx*

10-11:45 **Sato Yoshifumi** (Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University), “Oral Archives and Local Documents of lower Yangzi Delta in Modern and Contemporary China” 田野中的近現代江南的社會：以口述歷史和地方文獻為例.

11:45-13:15 *Lunch*

13:15-15 **Lui Wing Sing** (Lecturer, University General Education, Chinese University of Hong Kong), “The archives of the South Peak (province of Hunan), from the Republican period to the 1980s” 民國時期到 80 年代的湖南南嶽檔案.

15-15:15 *Break*

15:15-17 **Yang Cheng** (PhD candidate, Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge), “The *Xingke tiben* and what they tell us about Jiangnan region” 刑科題本檔案所反映的江南地區.

17-17:15 *Break*

17:15-18 *Discussion*