

CCS Seminars

The Center for Chinese Studies held a symposium on the “Outlook for Tun Huang Studies in the 21st Century” at the NCL on November 6.

NCL director Juang Fang-rung (莊芳榮) and Chung Hwa Book Company at Beijing supervising editor Chai Jianhong (柴劍虹) presided at the event. Keynote speeches were delivered on issues concerning the authenticity of Tun Huang texts (by Rong Xinjiang, 榮新江), Tun Huang historical materials studies (Hao Chun-wen, 郝春文), Tun Huang literary studies (Xiang Chu, 項楚), 吐魯番 materials studies (Chen Kuo-tsan, 陳國燦), Tun Huang Studies in Japan (Takada Tokio, 高田時雄), compilation of Tun Huang documents (Wang San-ching, 王三慶), and Tun Huang studies in Taiwan (Cheng Ah-tsai, 鄭阿財).

Another CCS seminar, held on August 29, Prof. Baik Young-seo (白永瑞) of South Korea's Yonsei University delivered a paper on the different experiences of Japanese imperialism in Taiwan and Korea. The seminar was chaired by Prof. Lu Fang-shang (呂芳上), director of the Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica.

Prof. Baik addressed his subject from the perspective of the Japanese imperial universities in Taipei and Seoul. The paper posed the question of why the experience of Japanese occupation varied in the two places and considered if these differences may not only exist in the imagination. He further analyzed the positive contribution of the imperial universities to the Japanese colonies. He argued that at both the Taipei and Seoul universities access to education was limited to only some of the locals, with the intent to win the allegiance of the local elite and thus advance efforts to integrate the colonies with Japanese society. Finally, he looked at the enduring legacy of imperialism at the universities and compared the differences between them.

On November 20, looked at the issue of memory and publishing. In his keynote paper, “Understanding Memoranda: The Assessment of Outstanding Publishing Figures in *Publishing History*,” Universitaet Wien, Austria sinologist Erich Pilz analyzed the qualities of memoranda presented in the *Chu-pan shih-liao* (Publishing History), a periodical released in Shanghai from 1982 to 1993. Prof. Pilz addressed his topic from western theories on memory, including community memory, the politics of memory, and memory management.

On December 14, the center hosted a seminar on the understanding and response of Ching scholar-officials to western countries in the nineteenth century. In his keynote paper, Prof. Vradiy Sergey of the Far-Eastern State University of Oriental Studies in Russia looked at how Qing literati broadened knowledge of western countries in China and helped to redefine the non-Chinese world in more realistic terms.