

■ July 24

A seminar jointly held by the Center for Chinese Studies and Popular Religions of the Han Chinese Research Team of the Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica featured a talk given by Ekaterina Zavidovskaya (research fellow, Institute of Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy Sciences) entitled “Rural Temple Communities *she* and *hui* of Western Shanxi and North Shaanxi Provinces and Their Religious Activities: Field Study Report”. Reserach fellow Chang Hsun (Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica) chaired the seminar.

Starting from early 1980s, Chinese villages took up massive fund raising to restore temples that had been pulled down in 1930-1950s. China’s religious revitalization, temple construction has been an issue much-discussed by academia during past decade. In 2007-2009, Dr. Zavidovskaya has been conducting field work in the villages located in several parts of Shanxi province and northern part of Shaanxi province to learn about structure and management of temple communities called either *she* (mostly in Shanxi), or *hui* (in the North of Shaanxi). “Temple community” is an alliance of several up to dozens of neighboring villages integrated in order to conduct worship of communal tutelary deities who are holding protectorate over the area of community. Some villages would join two communities to secure protection of more than one deity. Dr. Zavidovskaya primarily focused on organization and functions of how *she* is, the process of temple restoration as presented in



Dr. Ekaterina Zavidovskaya. (Photo by Jane Liao)

interviews and interactions with informants, temple committee, local administration, and main religious activities held at communal temples. Traditional body of rural self-government *she* has been influenced by modernization, therefore a group of leaders representing each village is now called “committee”(weiyuanhui), which stays in peaceful coexistence and close cooperation with village and township administration. Dr. Zavidovskaya made conclusions about differences in cultural accumulation between areas of Shanxi and Shaanxi and draw comparisons of ritual practices from North China and Taiwan.

LIS Seminars

Library Connect Seminar: Next Gen of Librarians
Organizers: National Taiwan Normal University Library; Elsevier Taiwan
Date: June 12, 2009
Venue: Taiwan Normal University Library

2009 International Conference on Institutional Repository Workshop
Advising Agency: Ministry of Education
Organizers: National Sun Yat-sen University; National Chiao Tung University; National Cheng Kung University; Hsiuping Institute of Technology; Kun Shan University; National Tsing Hua University; National Chi Nan University; National Taiwan University
Date: June 19, 2009
Venue: National Taiwan University Library
<http://ntur.lib.ntu.edu.tw/seminar/200906/>

2009 Annual Meeting of the Digital Dissertation Consortium
Organizers: National Chi Nan University Library; National Taiwan University Library
Date: August 13, 2009
Venue: Management College, National Chi Nan University
http://www.tbmc.com.tw/ddc_seminar98/index.html