The Glocalisation of Christianity in China

An International conference organised by The Centre for Chinese Studies and The Department of Religions and Theology.

15-16 May
UNIVERSITY PLACE 5.212 (15 MAY)
UNIVERSITY PLACE 5.204 (16 MAY)
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL

Centre for Chinese Studies
Wednesday 14 May
John Rylands Library, Deansgate

3pm
Delegates gather at the lobby of Ibis hotel for transfer to the John Rylands Library in Deansgate, where the keynote event will take place.

4pm
Drinks reception and special exhibition of mission-related sources from the Chinese Collection at John Rylands Library.

4:45-6pm:
Keynote speech followed by Q&A.
‘Multiple Meanings of Multiple Christianities: New Agendas for Research in a Polysemic Chinese Religious Field’. Professor Richard Madsen, Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of California, San Diego.

Thursday 15 May
University Place 5.212

8:30am
Delegates gather at the lobby of Ibis hotel for walk to the conference venue.

9-10:30am
Panel 1: Memory and Identity: Commemorating China’s Christian Pasts
Chair: Dr Thomas Harvey, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies

3. ‘Ancestors, Faith and Identity: Remembering Christian Heritage in Contemporary Southern Fujian’ (Chris White, Xiamen University).

10:30-11am: Tea Break

11-12:30pm
Panel 2: Translation and Localisation: From the Late Qing to the Present
Chair: Dr James St. André, Centre for Chinese Studies, University of Manchester

4. ‘Satan or Usurper: On Robert Morrison’s and Karl Gützlaff's Writings on Napoleon in Chinese and Their Influence’ (Cui Wendong, Chinese University of Hong Kong).
5. ‘From Vernacularisation to Localisation: The Theological Worldview of the Taipings’ (Carl Kilcourse, University of Manchester).
6. ‘Attempts and Experiences in “Indigenising” the Sacred Scripture in China’ (Monica Romano, Sapienza University of Rome).

12:30-1:30pm: Lunch
1:30-3pm  
Panel 3: Chinese Christianities in the Early Republican Era  
Chair: Prof. Peter T. M. Ng, China Victory Theological Seminary

7. ‘From Foreign Devil Religion to Chinese Christianity: The Preaching of Wang Mingdao, the Testimonies of John Sung and a Hymn of the Jesus Family’ (Thomas Harvey, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies).
8. ‘The Christ-Human and Jia Yuming’s Doctrine of Sanctification: A Case Study in the Confucianization of Chinese Fundamentalist Christianity’ (Wai Luen Kwok, Hong Kong Baptist University).
9. ‘The Injection of Pentecostalism into China, 1907-1917’ (J. Gordon Melton, Baylor University).

3:30-5pm  
Panel 4: Embodying ‘Chineseness’: Christian Institutions in Republican China  
Chair: Dr Kevin Ward, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Leeds

10. ‘The Glocalization of the Catholic Church in the Context of Higher Education in Republican China’ (Cindy Yik-yi Chu, Hong Kong Baptist University).
11. ‘Institutional Indigenization of Bible Work in China: A Study focusing on the China Bible House’ (George Kam Wah Mak, Hong Kong Baptist University).

3-3:30pm: Tea Break

Friday 16 May  
University Place 5.204

9-10:30am  
Panel 5: Chinese Contextual Theology in the Twentieth Century  
Chair: Prof. Peter Scott, Department of Religions & Theology, University of Manchester

13. ‘The Role of Union Theological Seminary (NY) in the Indigenisation of Christianity in Republican China’ (Christopher Sneller, King’s College London).
15. ‘Contextual Theology in Contemporary Chinese Christianity: Cases from the “Official” Protestant Church in China’ (Francis Ching-Wah Yip, Chinese University of Hong Kong).

10:30-11am: Tea Break
11-12pm
Panel 6: Churches and Christian Identities in Post-Mao China
Chair: Dr Scott Pacey, Department of Religions & Theology, University of Manchester

16. 'The Quest of Composure through the Lens of House Churches in Shanghai' (Ting Guo, University of Edinburgh)
17. 'Chinese Christianity or Chinese Christianities?: A Hearing-Impaired Protestant Congregation in Urban China' (Mark McLeister, University of Edinburgh).

12-1pm: Lunch

1-2:30pm
Panel 7: Glocal Agency: Mission Work in Contemporary China
Chair: Dr Carl Kilcourse, Department of History, University of Manchester

18. 'Proselytization Incognito: The Continued Presence of American Missionaries in Contemporary China’ (Beau James, University of Arizona).

2:30-3pm: Tea Break

3-4pm
Panel 8: A Changing Religion in a Changing World
Chair: Dr Chris White, Center for Research on Local Historical Documents, Xiamen University

21. ‘The Development of Indigenous Christianity in China: From Mid-19th Century to 1949’ (Peter T. M. Ng, China Victory Theological Seminary).
22. ‘The Development of Indigenous Theology: An Exploration of “Hexie shengxue”’ (Dennis T. W. Ng, China Victory Theological Seminary).

4-4:30pm
Roundtable discussion