

(1) Title: Chinese Religions in South East Asia

(2) Convener: Dr. TAN Ai Boay

(3) Brief Description of Panel:

There is a long history of Chinese in *Nanyang*, or South Seas since their ancestors migrated there. They brought along their belief once they settle in the ‘new land’. Studies on Chinese religions or beliefs in Southeast Asia tend to take them as tools of Chinese identities in the diasporic context. However, this paradigm neglects their interactions with local societies and supposes an unchangeable ‘Chinese-ness’. The purpose of this panel is to challenge this paradigm and focus on how the ‘Chinese-ness’ were contested when Chinese religions or beliefs encountered with non-Chinese communities in Southeast Asia. Four panelists will present their work on the contemporary and historical Chinese religious practices in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Borneo Island.

Sheh Yeh-Ying, the researcher from Singapore will illustrate Confucianism in Indonesia. Dr. Kang Min from China will talk about the Chinese Christian in Borneo. Dr. Tan Ai Boay and Dr. Lin Yu Sheng’s from Malaysia and Taiwan focus on the adoption of local elements in Chinese religious practices in Malaysia and Thailand respectively

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(4) Single session

- i) Malay and Islam Elements in Chinese Folks Religions in Malaysia. By TAN Ai Boay (Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia)
- ii) Phota Tosae Worship in Phuket Island, Thailand. By Dr. LIN Yu-Sheng (Academia Sinica, Taiwan)
- iii) Confucianism in Indonesia— Monotheism or Polytheism? By SHEH Yeh-Ying (National University Singapore, Singapore)
- iv) The Influence of Christian Doctrine to Livelihood of Chinese Immigrant in Borneo. By Dr. KANG Min (Beijing Foreign Studies University, China.)

(5) Discussant: Dr. LIN Yu Sheng