

Dr Xiangqun Chang BA, MA, PhD

Xiangqun received her BA in political science and MA in sociology in China, followed by a PhD in social anthropology in the UK from City University. She was a university lecturer for 6 years before she came to the UK in 1991. Subsequently she has worked as a Visiting Fellow, Research Assistant and Researcher at the China Research Unit and Sociology Department, City University; and Visiting Research Fellow, Research Fellow at the Asia Research Centre, and China in Comparative Perspective Network (CCPN), LSE successively since 2004; Research Associate of the Centre of Chinese Studies, SOAS, UK; a Special term Professor, Centre for Social and Cultural Anthropology, Fudan University, and a Visiting Professor, School of Humanities and Law, Northeast University, PRC.

Based on contemporary China studies Xiangqun's research areas are social creativity and personal, institutional and social relationships; gift exchange and reciprocity; social networks; social support and social welfare; social security and public security; local identity, culture and religion, village autonomy, global civil society; gender studies, fieldwork methodology, Marxist sociology.

She has conducted more than 20 research projects, funded by the Ministry of Education of China, Northeast Normal University, the National Social Sciences Fund, the Public Security University of China in the PRC, and in the UK the ESRC, the GBCC (Great Britain–China Centre), City University, the UCC (Universities' China Committee), the BFWG Charitable Foundation, the British Academy, DIUS (Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills) and privately. Currently, she is participating in two projects: Chinese governance models in the transitional period (2009-11) in collaboration with Northeast University, funded by the Ministry of Education of China; Comparative Studies on the New Migration from BRIC countries in America, Australia, Japan and the UK (20010-12) in collaboration with Nihon Fukushi University, funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

Xiangqun's extensive interdisciplinary training in China resulted in a publication record amounting to a million Chinese characters before she came to the UK. During her time in the UK she has pursued her interdisciplinary interests in both Chinese and English languages. She has developed a general analytical concept; *lishang-wanglai* (礼尚往来), a Chinese model of reciprocity, relatedness and social networks based on a very thorough and detailed ethnography of a Chinese village with longitudinal comparisons. She has at the same time developed extensive skills in both quantitative and qualitative analysis which has been used these to good effect in her doctoral work, where she has extracted a level of quantitative social and economic information about her fieldwork village from official and other sources that supplement her detailed qualitative fieldwork. She has also developed a new "post-fieldwork" method in her studies which allows her to follow up issues with her informants.

In the UK, her engagement in committee work over 10 years with a local residents association and school PTA has provided opportunities for a deeper level of understanding of British local identity and multi-cultural settings. From 2009 she serves as regional representative for Asia of the Membership Committee, International Association for Relationship Research (IARR).

Xiangqun was involved in editorial work in 1985 in China. Since then, in the UK, she has been the joint-editor of a Conference paper collection (Macmillan 1999), and from 2005 to 07 served as a member of the Editorial Board for the *Millennium – Journal of International Studies*, LSE. With support from Professor Stephan Feuchtwang and Department of Anthropology, she set up the "China in Comparative Perspective Network (CCPN)" and is establishing the *Journal of China in Perspective* (JCCP) at LSE, with a Chinese version in progress. She is also co-editor of the forthcoming two book series of "Looking at China with three eyes", and "Looking at world with three eyes". They both would be written by the overseas Chinese Scholars in Chinese.

Since obtaining her PhD in 2004 she has written about 20 papers for journals, conferences, seminars or use for lecture notes in both English and Chinese. Titles include "Changing relationships between the state and villagers in a Chinese village -- an analysis with *lishang-wanglai*", "Village cadres: shifting boundaries between 'inner (*nei*)' and 'outer (*wai*)' in a Chinese village -- An analysis with *lishang-wanglai*". Xiangqun's research work will be published as two books in English and Chinese in 2009. They are: *Guanxi or Li shang wanglai – Reciprocity, Social Support Networks and Creativities -- a Case Study in a Chinese Village*, and 《关系VS礼尚往来? -- 江村互惠、社会支持网和社会创造研究》. It is the first book which systematically challenged important theories of social exchange and reciprocity based on empirical studies on contemporary China over 100 years by a British based Chinese scholar (See Preface and Comments).