

Professor Zhou Xiaohong is Professor in sociology and social psychology, Head of Department of Sociology, Nanjing University. He plays a leading role in “China Studies” in China. The title of the seminar is “Cultural Feedback – Parent-child Relationship Transmission in a Changing Chinese Society”. This seminar will unfold the topic, which Chinese media keeps quiet, of whether or not “parents should learn from children” in China where patriarchy is still the dominant ideology. It will show how the younger generation has learnt new fashions; how parents feel that they are backward; and how these phenomena impact widely on current Chinese society.

Professor Zhai Xuewei is Professor in sociology and social psychology, Department of Sociology, Nanjing University. He is a pioneer in studies on Chinese social relations. His seminar titled “How Face-saving Operates in the Power Structure of Chinese Society”. Chinese society seems a rigid structure based on patriarchy, dictatorship or monarchical systems. However, “face-saving” is a flexible feature of social interaction with considerable impact. This seminar will show that social hierarchical order could be broken down if the face-saving game is played by new rules, and describe the new strategies used for face-saving in today’s China.

Both Professor Zhou Xiaohong and Professor Zhai Xuewei are invited speakers at the conference “Defining the Field: Themes in Contemporary China Studies”, University of Cambridge, 13-15 April 2007. On their short trip in the UK they will be giving a joint seminar on 17th April at LSE, NOTE, it is from 5 to 7pm. This is a chance to hear two of the China’s leading academics talk about changes in the structure of Chinese society and what these mean for the future.

Please also see:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEPublicLecturesAndEvents/events/2007/20070329t1008z001.htm>

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