

Editorial

Dear Readers,

Today we present to you the August 2023 issue of *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* (中國宗教評論) – the third issue this year.

We continue with the regular series of News Updates on recent events and general trends with regard to religions and especially Christianity in today's China.

The following article by Professor He Guanghu 何光沪, Prof. em. at Renmin University of China and outstanding representative of research on Christianity in China, is his opening remark on the “International Seminar on Human Flourishing in East Asia,” which took place at Harvard University from July 10–11, 2023.

Dr. Anthony Hu, author of the monograph *Believing in Ghosts and Spirits: The Concept of Gui in Ancient China*, in his article “Neo-Missionaries in Republican China. A Study of Selected Training Materials Mostly in Bilingual Format for the Divine Word Missionaries in Shandong” focuses on the various sources for learning Chinese published by the SVD during the Republican era, i.e., grammar books, dictionaries, catechetical instructions, selected Chinese readings about local events, reports, scientific information or stories, and even a local travel guide for foreigners. The amount of those materials is impressive. Dr. Hu presented the contribution shared here at the symposium “Shaping the Outlook on Life – Education and Religion in Chinese Contexts” at Lund University on May 4, 2023. Prof. Dr. Esther-Maria Guggenmos, professor of the History of Religions at Lund University and convener of the symposium, gives a detailed report on the contents of the conference.

We close this issue with a film review of *Yinru chenyan* 隱入塵烟 (*Return to Dust*), directed by Li Ruijun 李睿珺, China 2022, by Prof. Leo Leeb, Renmin University in Beijing. The moving and thought-provoking film about the touching care of a small farmer in the province of Gansu for an impoverished and slightly disabled woman – who became his wife – unfortunately was withdrawn from cinemas in China.

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Sankt Augustin, August 2023

The Editors