

鴉片戰爭再詮釋

陸志鴻 (Gary Chi-hung Luk)

前倫敦大學歷史研究所博士後研究員

漢學研究中心獎助學人

在中國研究中，鴉片戰爭（1839-1842）或「第一次鴉片戰爭」的性質還存有不少爭議。中外關係史的學者往往主張這場戰爭呈現傳統的東方（中國）和擴張的西方（英國）之間在外交、軍事、商業及文化等層面的衝突。追索中、英兩國內部發展的學者則指出鴉片戰爭除遠達政治中樞紫禁城及西敏寺外，也反映清朝統治者和陸上臣民的對抗。

我的演講將著重於對鴉片戰爭三個「內在」性質的辯論。它們分別是：清帝國對「海疆」的控制，大英帝國對中國沿海、沿河地區的統治，以及兩個帝國管理中國沿海、河濱居民時的衝突。沿海和沿河地區，往往因為城鄉二分的概念而被忽略，是次演講對鴉片戰爭的再詮釋，可幫助我們理解清、英帝國的軍事衝突對沿海和沿河地區的深刻影響，從而連結清史、西方帝國在華史，以及中華帝國晚期的海河社會史。

Reinterpreting the Opium War

In China scholarship, the natures of the Opium War (1839-1842) or the first Opium War have been contested. Scholars of Sino-Western relations have often presented the war as a series of diplomatic, military, commercial, and cultural conflicts between a traditional East (China) and an expanding West (Britain). Yet, historians tracing China's and Britain's internal developments have revealed that the Opium War also permeated the Forbidden City in Beijing and Westminster in London, and reflected confrontations between the Qing authorities and their land-based Chinese subjects. This talk engages in the debate on the war's nature by

exploring its three “inner” aspects, namely Qing control over the “sea frontier,” British imperial rule in littoral China, and the clashes between the Qing and British empires over ruling the Chinese maritime and riverine population. This reinterpretation helps us understand the profound impact of the Qing-British fighting on China’s littorals, the liminal areas between land and water often veiled by the rural-urban divide, thereby connecting Qing history, Western imperial history in China, and late imperial Chinese maritime and riverine social history.

主講人介紹：

陸志鴻（Gary Chi-hung Luk），英國籍，前倫敦大學歷史研究所博士後研究員。陸先生的專長領域包括近現代中國的海疆、邊境，以及帝國主義國家、中國掌權者和人民之間的互動等。本年獲得漢學研究中心獎助，來臺研究主題為「Water Borders: Ethnicities, Empires, and Trades in Late Imperial and Modern China’s Littorals」。