



CENTER on RELIGION and CHINESE SOCIETY

中國宗教與社會研究中心

A POST-VATICAN II BISHOP:

Aloysius Jin Luxian and the Mind of Chinese Catholic Intellectuals



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Purdue University Calumet

April 15, 2015

1:00-2:30 pm

Heavilon Hall 206

Aloysius Jin Luxian S.J. (1916-2013), the late “aboveground” bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Shanghai, has remained a towering and yet controversial religious figure to this day in global Catholic world. Educated by the French Jesuits in Shanghai, he joined the Society of Jesus in 1938 and was ordained a priest in 1946. He returned to China in 1951 after studying theology in France and Italy, at the time when many were fleeing. While some credit him for restoring China’s Catholic Church from ashes since 1982, others accuse him of illegitimacy and even treason. Current research on Bishop Jin tends to focus on the complex relationship between the Vatican and the Chinese government. This presentation proposes to study his decision to collaborate with the government and his subsequent achievements in light of the mind of Chinese Catholic intellectuals from Ma Xiangbo to Wang Changzhi: their continuous adherence to the legacy of the first Jesuits mission as exemplified by Matteo Ricci (1552-1610), their resistance to Western missionaries’ imperialism in the 19th and early 20th centuries, as well as their alliance with progressive Catholic thinkers who played a pivotal role leading up to the Vatican II (1962-1965) reforms.



Jin Lu is a professor of French at Purdue University Calumet. After conducting part of her doctoral training from University of Paris IV, Sorbonne and the Ecole Normale Supérieure of Paris, she received her Ph.D in French literature from Boston College with a dissertation on Jesuit contribution to the Enlightenment (1734-1745). She has authored a monograph (Laval University Press, 2005) on the plurality which characterizes the figure of the philosophe in eighteenth century France, including Christian philosophers. Her current research centers on cross-cultural relations and global religious studies.



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