



Jeong Do-jeon's Adaption of Yuan's Political Legacy

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(This talk will be held in Korean via Zoom)

Speaker:

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Abstract

Jeong Dojeon, also known as the principal architect of the Joseon dynasty, published three texts since the founding of Joseon in 1392: *Joseon gyeongguk jeon* (1394), *Gyeongje mungam* (1395), *Gyeongje mungam byeoljip* (1397). These three texts are considered as the blueprint of the Joseon Dynasty. In the process of writing his texts, Jeong Dojeon referred to the scriptures of classical Confucianism and Neo-Confucianism as well as various texts published during the Yuan Dynasty. However, he was not explicit about his use of Yuan references and highlighted the political model of Zhouli (周禮) instead. As a Neo-Confucian scholar, Jeong Dojeon disregarded the Yuan as barbarians, but, nevertheless, he consulted the heritage of Yuan while designing the institutional structures of the new dynasty, because Yuan had reigned as the conqueror of the East Asian region for more than a century and accumulated political experiences. With this into consideration, this talk will highlight the characteristics of the three works, classify them into government, ministerial affairs, and rulership, and illuminate them from the perspective of “a guidebook for the founding monarch”.

Short Biography

Jae-hyeok Song is Research Professor in the Asiatic Research Institute at Korea University. He received his PhD in political science (Korean political thought) from Korea University and published many papers including “A Reinterpretation of the First Rebellion by the Prince: Focusing on the Expression of ‘byeong-gi (炳幾)’ in the Shin-gae’s Petition (2022) and *Why did not Jeong Dojeon Disclose His References?* (2021). He is now preparing for publication of two books: *A Critical Biography of Sejong* and *The Birth of Joseon*.

Registration is required. Please email: jooglee@cityu.edu.hk