Transforming Emotions with Chinese Medicine
An Ethnographic Account from Contemporary China
Yanhua Zhang

Explores how Chinese medicine deals with emotional disorders.

Chinese medicine approaches emotions and emotional disorders differently than the Western biomedical model. Transforming Emotions with Chinese Medicine offers an ethnographic account of emotion-related disorders as they are conceived, talked about, experienced, and treated in clinics of Chinese medicine in contemporary China. While Chinese medicine (zhongyi) has been predominantly categorized as herbal therapy that treats physical disorders, it is also well known that Chinese patients routinely go to zhongyi clinics for treatment of illness that might be diagnosed as psychological or emotional in the West. Through participant observation, interviews, case studies, and zhongyi publications, both classic and modern, the author explores the Chinese notion of “body-person,” unravels cultural constructions of emotion, and examines the way Chinese medicine manipulates body-mind connections.

“The author has covered an amazing range of complex ideas in a reader-friendly format, increasing our understanding of both Chinese and conventional Western models. I know of no other book within the English language literature that accurately and comprehensively addresses traditional Chinese ideas of health psychology.” — Paul Pedersen, University of Hawaii

Yanhu Zhang is Assistant Professor of Chinese at Clemson University.

A volume in the SUNY series in Chinese Philosophy and Culture
Roger T. Ames, editor

February • 224 pp.
$24.95 pb 978-0-7914-7000-8
$74.50 hc 978-0-7914-6999-6

THE CHINESE AND OPIUM UNDER THE REPUBLIC
Worse than Floods and Wild Beasts
Alan Baumler

Examines China’s attempts to control the opium economy in the early twentieth century.

In the nineteenth century, opium smoking was common throughout China and regarded as a vice no different from any other: pleasurable, potentially dangerous, but not a threat to destroy the nation and the race, and often profitable to the state and individuals. Once Western concepts of addiction came to China in the twentieth century, however, opium came to be seen as a problem “worse than floods and wild beasts.” In this book, Alan Baumler examines how Chinese reformers convinced the people and the state that eliminating opium was one of the crucial tasks facing the new Chinese nation. He analyzes the process by which the government borrowed international models of drug control and modern ideas of citizenship and combined them into a program that successfully transformed opium from a major part of China’s political economy to an ordinary social problem.

“This is an important addition to the literature, contributing not only to our knowledge of the opium issue in particular, but also, more broadly, to the entire history of nation building in modern China. Baumler spends much of the work discussing the political discourse about opium, which is as crucial as the opium trade itself. The strongest feature of his work is that he stands outside of the dialogue and examines it with an objective eye. So much of the discussion about drugs is morally charged that it is difficult to do so, but Baumler is able to show how this discourse developed. Reading this book forces one to make constant reference to our own War on Drugs and ‘Just Say No’ campaigns.” — Parks M. Coble, author of Chinese Capitalists in Japan’s New Order: The Occupied Lower Yangzi, 1937–1945

Alan Baumler is Associate Professor of History at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and editor of Modern China and Opium: A Reader.

January • 320 pp.
1 table, 7 figures
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THREE KINGDOMS AND CHINESE CULTURE
KIMBERLY BESIO AND CONSTANTINE TUNG, EDITORS


This is the first book-length treatment in English of *Three Kingdoms* (Sanguo yanyi), often regarded as China's first great classical novel. Set in the historical period of the disunion (220–280 AD), *Three Kingdoms* fuses history and popular tradition to create a sweeping epic of heroism and political ambition. The essays in this volume explore the multifarious connections between *Three Kingdoms* and Chinese culture from a variety of disciplines, including history, literature, philosophy, art history, theater, cultural studies, and communications, demonstrating the diversity of backgrounds against which this novel can be studied.

Some of the most memorable episodes and figures in Chinese literature appear within its pages, and *Three Kingdoms* has had a profound influence on personal, social, and political behavior, even language usage, in the daily life of people in China today. The novel has inspired countless works of theater and art, and, more recently, has been the source for movies and a television series. Long popular in other countries of East Asia, such as Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, *Three Kingdoms* has also been introduced to younger generations around the globe through a series of extremely popular computer games.

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MENCIUS AND MASCULINITIES
DYNAMICS OF POWER, MORALITY, AND MATERNAL THINKING
JOANNE D. BIRDWHISTELL

Looks at the Confucian classic *Mencius* from a feminist perspective and uncovers the “maternal thinking” within the work.

In this innovative work, Joanne D. Birdwhistell presents the first gender analysis of the *Mencius*, a central text in the Chinese philosophical tradition. Mencian philosophy, particularly its ideas about the processes by which a man could develop into a cultivated gentleman, was important to the political thought of China’s long imperial order. Through close textual readings, Birdwhistell offers a new interpretation of core Mencian ideas about the heart and the self-cultivation of the great man. She argues that the concept of masculinity advocated by the *Mencius* is derived, although without acknowledgment, from maternal practices and thinking—through processes of appropriation, inversion, and transformation. She illustrates that even though maternal practices and thinking are an invisible dimension of Mencian thought, they are constantly present in the text through their transcoding with agricultural practices and thinking.

“This is the first serious reading of the *Mencius* from a feminist perspective, opening up a new dimension in Mencius studies.” — Chenyang Li, author of *The Tao Encounters the West: Explorations in Comparative Philosophy*

**JOANNE D. BIRDWHISTELL** is Professor Emerita of Philosophy and Asian Civilization at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. She is the author of *Li Yong (1627–1705) and Epistemological Dimensions of Confucian Philosophy and Transition to Neo-Confucianism: Shao Yang on Knowledge and Symbols of Reality*.

A volume in the SUNY series in Chinese Philosophy and Culture  
Roger T. Ames, editor

**MARCH** • 160 pp.  
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— Bettine Birge, author of Women, Property, and Confucian Reaction in Sung and Yuan China (960–1368)

CHRISTIAN DE PEE is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Michigan.

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