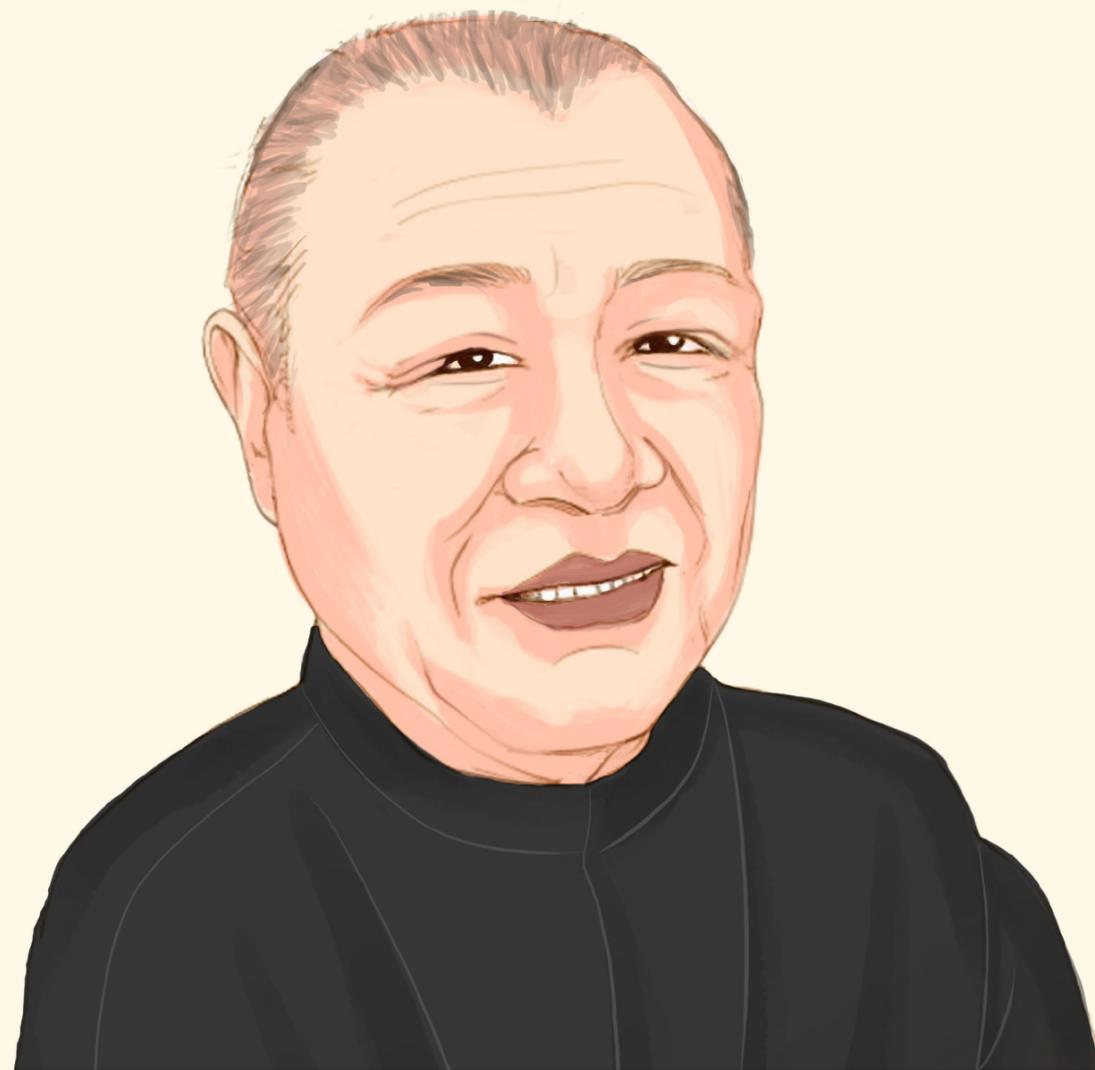


2024 Tang Prize

SINOLOGY



**Hsu Cho-yun**

# Why Professor Hsu Cho-yun?

**Professor Hsu opened the dialogue of Sinology with the humanities and social sciences, thus making a fundamental impact on Sinology.**

## **Exploring Essential Elements of Chinese History**

Specializing in particular topics of ancient history, Hsu broaches contemporary questions from the perspective of antiquity, offering insights into core themes of Chinese history.

## **Perceiving Chinese History from A Worldly Vision**

Valuing the cultural and intellectual exchanges between China and the world, his series of comprehensive historical works integrate China into world civilizations.

## **Integrating Historiography with Social Sciences**

With methodologies drawn from the social sciences, Hsu has transformed historical research into a resource for humanistic education, demonstrating his unwavering public spirit.

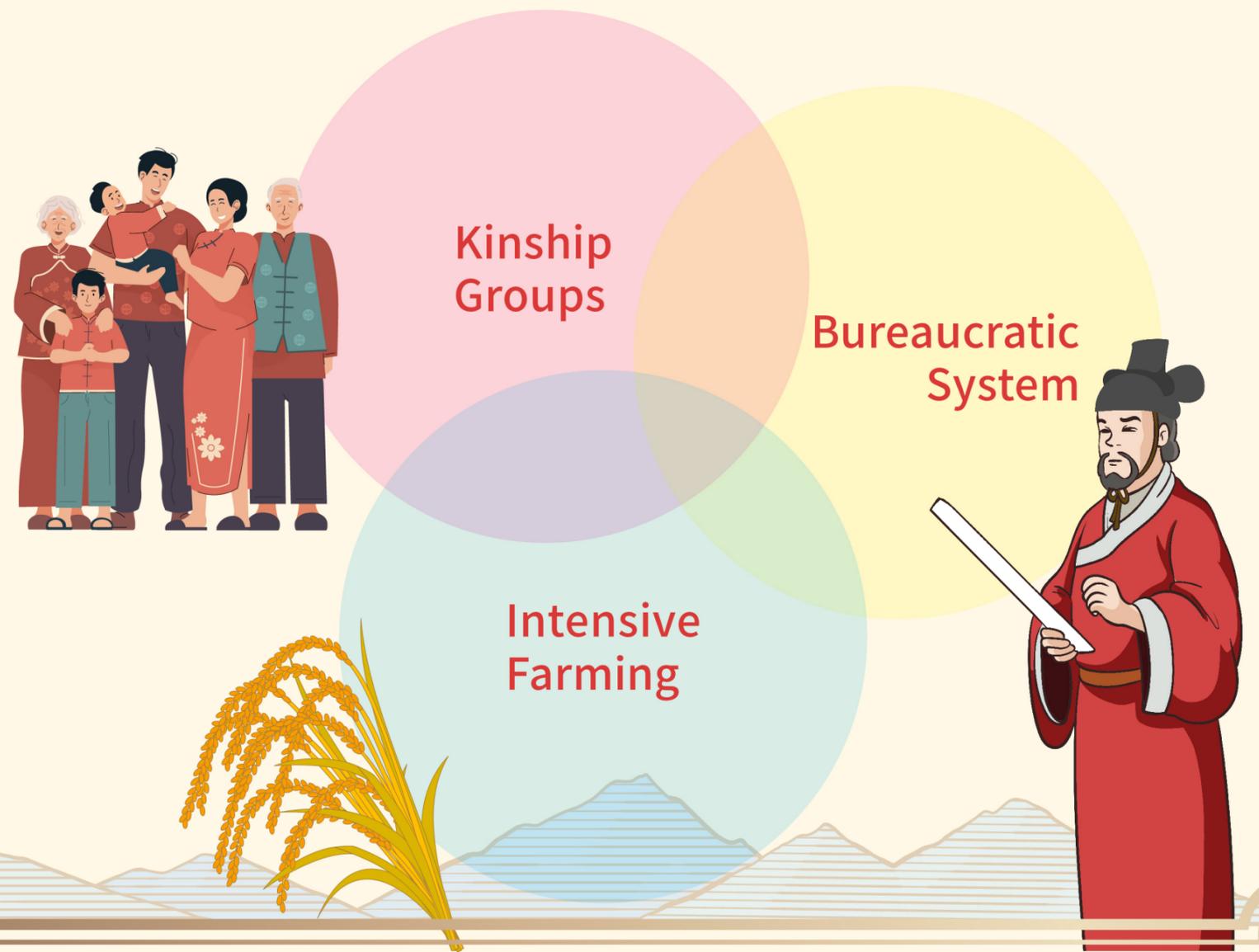


# A Historian of Antiquity and Modernity

In his research on the Zhou, Qin, and Han periods, Professor Hsu's unique insights achieve a comprehensive interpretation of early Chinese history.

Through his "three matrixes of Chinese culture": the *Huaxia* consciousness among kinship groups, the central/local and political/social bureaucratic system, and the intensive rural/commercial market economy, Hsu has expanded Chinese history research with his unique observations and discoveries.

With his expertise, Professor Hsu critiques political dynamics and institutional transformations from a historical perspective, taking one to look into not only the bygone ages but the present and future.



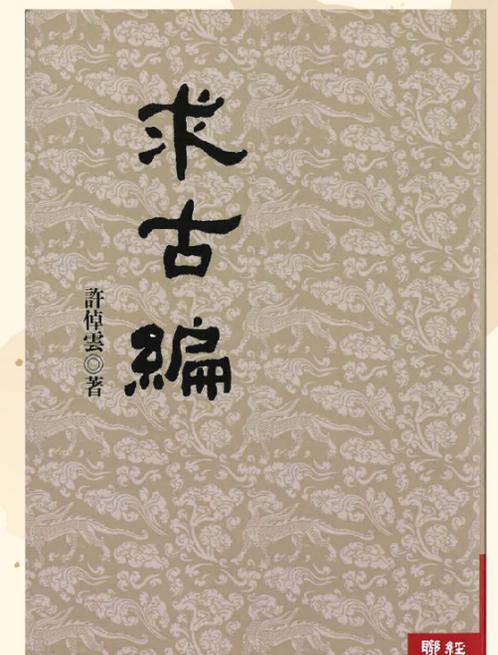
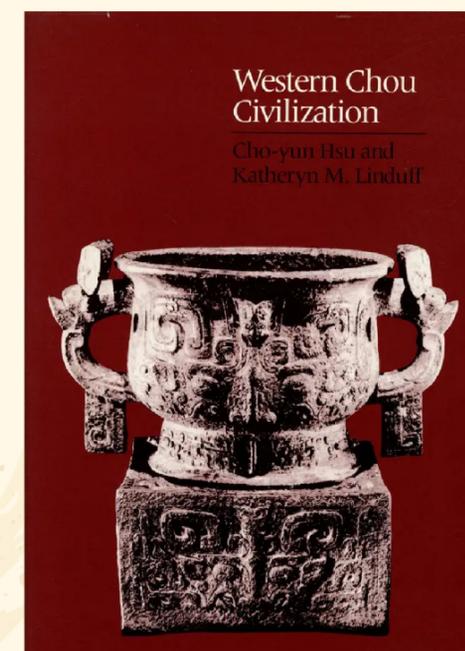
# Key Publications You Shouldn't Miss (I)

## A New Direction in Chinese History Studies

*Xizhou Shi* (*Western Chou Civilization*; first published in Chinese in 1984) is the first monograph to focus on the dynastic history of the Western Zhou. The book's unique insight lies in its inquisition of the formation of the *Huaxia* state within "China" at the time, and the continued expansion of its cultural sphere.

## Discourses on Institutional Structure Throughout Early China

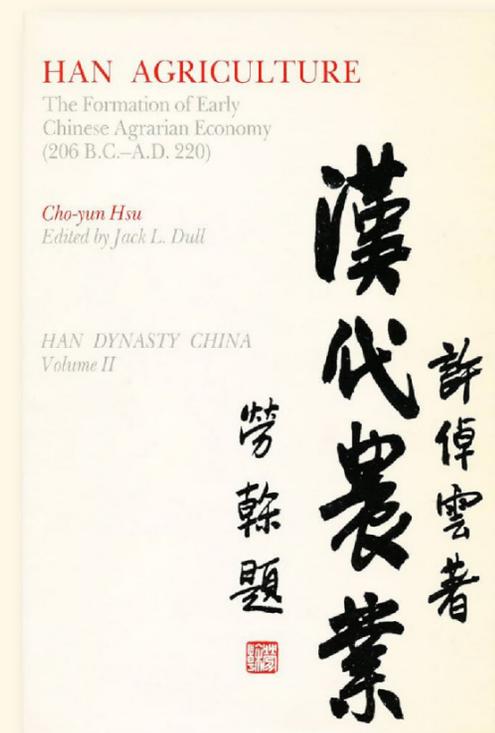
*Qiyu Bian* [Discovering Antiquity] (1982) deals with the political/social and central/local bureaucratic systems of the Zhou, Qin, and Han periods, which in effect illuminate all eras of early China.



# Key Publications You Shouldn't Miss (II)

## Exploration into Political and Economic Features of China

*Han Agriculture* (1980) provides an in-depth analysis of crop varieties, tools and techniques, farming methods, and peasant livelihoods during the Han dynasty. It reveals that the ideology that emphasized agriculture over commerce, government fiscal policies, and land distribution were all critical factors in the stability of an agrarian state such as China.



This magnum opus addresses the crucial transition from a trade and commerce-oriented society to an agrarian state from the Warring States to the early Han period. Professor Hsu's study of "Han agriculture" transcends the "Han dynasty" and "agriculture" alone, offering insights into core themes of Chinese history.

# Network Theory and the Pulse of Chinese History

Tangible roads and waterways facilitate not only material circulation and social contact, but also the political and ideological systems.

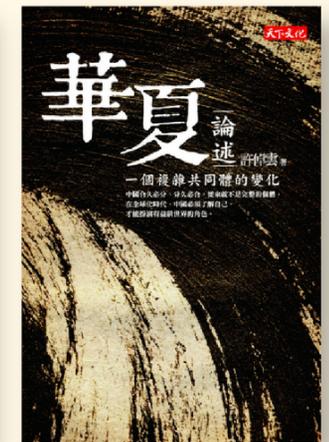
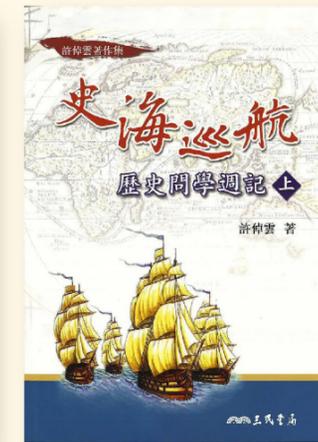
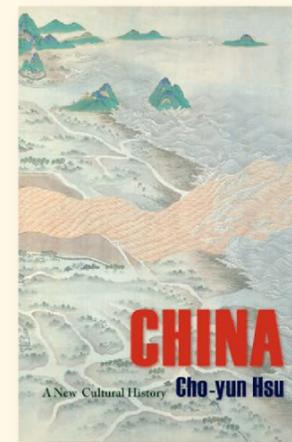
Inseparable from the transportation systems, the interconnected economic, social, political, and ideological aspects form a complex network that has laid the foundation for China's stability.

This is what Hsu terms his "network theory," which provides a practical framework for grand historical analysis.



# A Holistic Approach to Chinese History

Professor Hsu spent his early career exploring the essential elements of China through the study of ancient history, and has devoted his later years to writing comprehensive historical narratives.



Notable examples include *China: A New Cultural History*, *Shihai Xunhang* [Voyage on the Sea of History], and *Huaxia Lunshu* [Discourse on the *Huaxia*], which portray Chinese history in the global context, emphasizing the Sino-foreign cultural and intellectual exchanges and integrating China into world civilizations.



# Shaping Sinology Today

## From Academia to Society

Professor Hsu Cho-yun engages Sinology with the public, bridging the gap between historiography and society.

## Nurturing Talent

In his teaching career, Professor Hsu has led curriculum transformation and influenced Taiwanese historiography for three decades. He has also been instrumental in establishing programs to support Chinese studies in North America and to promote international academic exchange.

## A Sinologist of Erudition and Public Spirit

Beyond his scholarly contributions, Professor Hsu has published numerous works on general themes, proving the usefulness of historical knowledge. He best exemplifies a figure of both Western academic rigor and traditional Chinese intellectual engagement.

