

2017年語言學與應用語言學聯合研究中心系列講座（九）

Inscriptional Evidence and the Origins of Poetic Form in Early China

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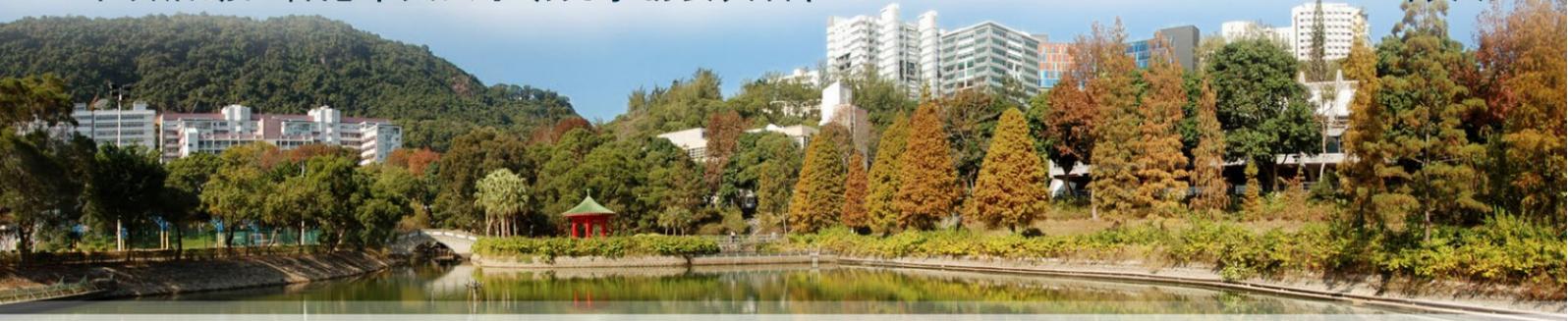
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ABSTRACT:

While some authors have claimed that a conscious use of poetic devices and incipient versification may be traced back to Shang oracle bone inscriptions, the first undisputed specimens of rhyming and rhymed texts in Early China are extant in the form of a corpus of several hundred bronze inscriptions from the Western and Eastern Zhou dynasties. The talk will review the evidence for the earliest instances of alliteration and end rhyme outside the transmitted literature, present a diachronic sketch of the rise of regular tetrasyllabic meters towards the beginning of the Springs and Autumns period and take a fresh look at other devices of early versification, such as line-internal rhyming and the use of reduplication. While arguing for the usefulness of such data for an understanding of Early Chinese morphology, the external relationships of Chinese and the dating of pre-Qin accretional texts, problems in the detection of rhyme and its interdependence with models of phonological reconstruction will also be highlighted.

本次活動由香港中文大學研究事務委員會(Research Committee, CUHK)資助。



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